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SATURDAY, MAY 28, 2022

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Haryana former CM Chautala gets 4-year jail in assets case
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Mathura idols buried under Agra mosque, claims fresh suit
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I want to see a phone in every hand, drone in every farm, says Modi
page 10

Buttler on song as RR cruises past RCB to enter the final
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NEARBY

Namma Metro ridership crosses 4.6 lakh mark

BENGALURU

After suffering reduced ridership and revenue in the last two years of the pandemic, Namma Metro ridership touched the 4.62 lakh mark recently. The Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited is hoping that in two months, the daily ridership would cross 5 lakh mark.

BENGALURU ▸ PAGE 2

State's infant mortality rate falls by two points

BENGALURU

In a pointer to improved health indicators, Karnataka's Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) fell by two points from 21 in 2019 to 19 in 2020, according to the Sample Registration System (SRS) bulletin for 2020 released on Thursday.

BENGALURU ▸ PAGE 5

Pacts for ₹60,000 crore signed in Davos: Bommai

BENGALURU

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai said the State had succeeded in drawing a total investment of ₹60,000 crore in various sectors by signing agreements with multinational companies

KARNATAKA ▸ PAGE 6

PROPERTYPLUS ▸ PAGE 4

Aryan Khan gets clean chit in Mumbai 'drugs-on-cruise' case

He was in custody for over 3 weeks and granted bail following Bombay HC order

SONAM SAIGAL
MUMBAI

The Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) has excluded the name of actor Shah Rukh Khan's son Aryan Khan, 23, in the charge sheet filed before a special court in Mumbai on Friday in connection with the 'drugs-on-cruise' case. Mr. Aryan Khan was arrested on October 3, 2021 and was in custody for over three weeks.

As per a press note released by the agency, "All accused were found in possession of narcotics except Aryan (Khan) and Mohak. The touchstone of the principle of proof beyond reasonable doubt has been applied, based on which a complaint has been filed against 14 accused and a complaint against six (including Aryan Khan) is not filed due to lack of sufficient evidence." The 6,000-page charge sheet named Arbaaz Merchant, Munmun Dhamecha and 12 others. Mr. Aryan Khan and five others have not been named.

On March 28, the agency filed an application before the special Narcotics Drugs Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act court, seeking more time to file a charge sheet in the drug case busted on October 2 when 13 grams of cocaine, five grams of MD (mephedrone), 21 grams of charas, 22 pills of MDMA and ₹1,33,000 cash were seized at the International Cruise Terminal, Mumbai.

Case goes to SIT

The case was transferred to a special investigation team (SIT) on November 6, 2021, and on March 2, its chief Sanjay Singh said it was highly premature to say that there was no evidence against Mr. Aryan Khan in the case. The SIT took over the case as it was becoming controversial and the agency's reputation was at stake.

There were serious loopholes in the initial probe, which was carried out under the supervision of then Mumbai zonal director Sameer Wankhede. The SIT conducted an objective investigation into all the aspects of the case, he stated.

At a press conference, NCB Director General S.N. Pradhan said the SIT went by the principle of "beyond reasonable doubt", based on which there was not sufficient evidence against six of the 20 accused persons. Therefore, the charge sheet was filed against 14 others within the stipulated time period. A supplementary one would be submitted in case the probe team came across any further evidence.

On October 28, the Bombay High Court granted bail to Mr. Aryan Khan and two others after he was arrested on October 2. It directed that they be released from the Arthur Road Jail after executing a cash bond of ₹1 lakh with one or more sureties.

Mr. Aryan Khan, along with eight others, had been charged under sections 8 (c) (prohibition to produce, manufacture, possess, sell, purchase, transport, warehouse, use, consume, import inter-State, export inter-State, import into India, export from India or tranship any narcotic drug or psychotropic substance; and 20 (b) (punishment for contravention in relation to cannabis), among others.

Case file | A timeline of the 'drugs-on-cruise' case involving actor Shah Rukh Khan's son Aryan Khan

Oct. 3, 2021: Aryan Khan arrested by the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) following a drug bust on board a cruise ship off the Mumbai coast

Oct. 7: Aryan Khan and seven others sent to 14-day judicial custody

Oct. 8: Court rejects bail for Aryan Khan

Oct. 13: The NCB opposes the bail application

Oct. 20: He moves Bombay HC for bail

Oct. 28: Bombay HC grants him bail

May 27, 2022: NCB drops the case against Aryan Khan

Wankhede faces action

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The government has recommended appropriate action against the former Mumbai zonal director of Narcotics Control Bureau, Sameer Wankhede, for a "shoddy" initial probe into the drug racket case, sources said. An independent witness in the case, Prabhakar Sail, had alleged extortion in the case. Maharashtra Minister, Nawab Malik, had also accused Mr. Wankhede of using a forged Scheduled Caste certificate to become an IRS officer.

The official had denied the charges. ▸ PAGE 11

Trial in Gauri Lankesh murder case begins

It will be held for a week every month

THE CHRONOLOGY

September 5, 2017: Two unidentified assailants shot at and killed editor-activist Gauri Lankesh at her R.R. Nagar residence

May 27, 2022: Trial begins in the case

October 30, 2021: KCOCA Special Court in the city frames charges against all the 18 accused in the case under KCOCA, 2000 and other sections of the Indian Penal Code

October 21, 2021: Supreme Court sets aside the High Court order and confirmed the application of KCOCA, 2000

November 23, 2018: Special Investigation Team (SIT) files a 9,325 page charge sheet against 18 accused, alleging an unnamed gang with members associated with Hindu Janjagruti Samiti and inspired by the teachings of 'Kshatra Dharma Sadhana' by Sanatan Sanstha, killed Gauri Lankesh

April 22, 2021: Karnataka High Court quashes the application of Karnataka Control of Organised Crimes Act, 2000 against one of the accused Mohan Naik, opening a floodgate of similar applications seeking quashing application of KCOCA, 2000, in the High Court

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

After much delay and legal hurdles, the trial in the Gauri Lankesh *(in picture)* murder case finally began on Friday, almost five years after she was killed on September 5, 2017.

Judge C.M. Joshi, presiding over the Special KCOCA Court, set some ground rules for the trial.

"The trial will be held continuously for weeks. For now, the trial will be held every second week of the month for five days," Mr. Joshi said, adjourning the case till July 4. The trial in the case will be held from July 4 to 8, he said.

Gauri's sister Kavita Lankesh, the complainant in the murder case, was supposed to depose before the court and record her statement on Friday. However, the counsel of the accused objected to her statement being recorded as all the 17 accused were not present in the court. Six accused presently lodged in Arthur Road Jail, Mumbai, were not present in the court, while the remaining accused lodged in Bengaluru Central Prison were part of the proceedings through videoconference facility from the prison. Counsel for the accused moved a petition seeking trial be held only in the physical presence of all the accused in the court, as they had to consult with them during trial.

However, Mr. Joshi disposed of the petition directing all the accused lodged in Bengaluru and Mumbai to be made part of the trial through videoconference and said the advocates would be allowed to consult their clients over phone or meet them physically.

Special public prosecutor S. Balan said the court's decision to hold the trial for one week every month bodes well for the prosecution and hoped there would be a speedy trial.

International Booker Prize for Geetanjali

ZIYA US SALAM
NEW DELHI

Indian author Geetanjali Shree has won the prestigious International Booker Prize for her Hindi novel *Ret Samadhi*, translated into English as *Tomb of Sand* by Daisy Rockwell.

The Mainpuri-born, 65-year-old Ms. Shree follows in the footsteps of Indian-origin author Salman Rushdie, Kiran Desai, Arundhati Roy and Arvind Adiga to win the international honour. The book was chosen among 135 longlisted ones. The Hindi original was published in 2018 while the English translation hit the stores in India in March this year.

"This rather chunky text," as Ms. Rockwell said at the award ceremony, "is the first time the translation of a Hindi language book had been nominated for the award".

"Shortlisting from 135 books was daunting. Choosing a single one from them has been agonising," as the compere said before the announcement.

Shortly before the award ceremony in London, Ms. Shree, who has four other novels under her belt, told the media, "The plot challenges the boundaries of time and geography. It is recognition of a very special kind."

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 10

Geetanjali Shree

Vandita Sharma appointed new Chief Secretary of State

Vandita Sharma

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Going by seniority, the State government on Friday appointed Additional Chief Secretary and Development Commissioner Vandita Sharma, a 1986 batch IAS officer, as the new Chief Secretary of Karnataka. The incumbent Chief Secretary P. Ravi Kumar, will retire from the service on superannuation on May 31, 2022, according to a notification issued by the government.

Ms. Sharma will take over from Mr. Ravi Kumar on May 31. She will be in office till November 2023.

A native of Punjab, she will be Karnataka's 39th Chief Secretary. Vandita Sharma's husband is Additional Chief Secretary (Finance) I.S.N. Prasad. Born in 1963, Ms. Sharma holds an MA degree in English. Ms. Sharma, whose career spans over 35 years, is the fourth woman to occupy the post of the Chief Secretary of the State after Rathna Prabha (2017), Teresa Bhattacharya (2000), and Malathi Das (2006).

Tragic fall: The damaged vehicle after it fell into the Shyok river at the Turtuk sector in Nubra on Friday. • ANI

7 Army men killed in Ladakh accident

Vehicle skids off road, falls into river

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Seven Army personnel were killed on Friday when a bus with 26 of them on board skidded off the road and fell in Shyok river while proceeding from the Transit Camp at Partapur in Ladakh to a forward location in Sub Sector Hanif.

"Around 0900 hours, around 25 km from Thoise, the vehicle skidded off the road and fell in Shyok river, to a depth of approx 50-60 feet, resulting in injuries to all occupants," an Army source said on Friday.

Initially, all 26 individuals were evacuated to 403 Field Hospital at Partapur and surgical teams from Leh were moved to Partapur.

"Seven individuals have been declared dead so far. There are grievous injuries to others as well," the source said.

All 19 were shifted to Western Command at Chandimandir later.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday expressed anguish over the road accident. "Anguished by the bus accident in Ladakh, in which we have lost our brave Army personnel," Mr. Modi said in a tweet.

"My thoughts are with the bereaved families. I hope those injured recover at the earliest. All possible assistance is being given to the affected," he said.

GETTY IMAGES

Her dominance, her longevity, her aura, the way she changed the game in her image — impossible to overstate. But after 2018, she helped reshape narratives around athletes and motherhood. She went from being regarded as the greatest female tennis player of all time to having an argument as the greatest tennis player of all time — and, finally, as one of the greatest of all time, full stop. Forget tennis

LOUISA THOMAS
Author and sports columnist

Late-career greatness refracted through the Serena prism

You can't take away greatness. Greats don't stop being great all of a sudden. It just gets harder to sustain the consistent will to do it day in and day out

PAUL ANNACONE
Former coach of Sampras and Federer

The 40-year-old American may not be at the ongoing French Open, but she is still very much part of the larger tennis conversation. With her now hinting at a return during Wimbledon, it's a good time to examine whether the last four years merit a revision of her legacy

PREETHI RAMAMOORTHY

In the summer of 2012, the *terre battue* of Court Philippe Chatrier witnessed a spectacular implosion. Serena Williams was bundled out of the first round of Roland Garros by Virginie Razzano, a player who at the time was ranked 106 spots below her. Never before in her Grand Slam history had the American faced such an early exit.

It was a culmination of a stretch of lows that began in 2010 with a freak foot accident and continued as a two-year dry spell with no Major titles. Such was the level of her dispiritedness that she would choose a coach — Patrick Mouratoglou — from outside her family for the first time.

Ten years later, Serena, at 40 and well past her tennis prime, finds herself in a similar yet different situation. It has been four years since she returned to competition after the birth of her daughter, four years in pursuit of an elusive 24th Grand Slam title that will tie her with Margaret Court in the record books. She also finds herself without a coach now after Mouratoglou, with whom she won 10 Majors, moved on to train Romanian Simona Halep.

Serena may not be a part of the ongoing French Open, but she is still very much part of the larger tennis conversation. With her now hinting at a return during Wimbledon, it seems a natural time to examine the last four years and whether they merit a revision of her legacy.

Many attributes make Serena the tennis supernova that she is. She unites power and precision, strength and skill. When she unleashes her scything serve, she absolutely does not expect it to be returned.

But what really set her apart, and what seems to now burn only as faint embers, is a sense of tactical adjustment often married to killer instinct. Serena has won three Grand Slam titles after being down match-point. Her ability to drag herself out of tough situations has often been eclipsed by just how easy she makes winning look.

Paul Annacone, who coached Pete Sampras in the second half of his career and then Roger Federer for a bit, has a theory on how tennis greats age. "You can't take away greatness," he tells *The Hindu*. "Greats don't stop being great all of a sudden. It just gets harder to sustain the consistent will to do it day in and day out."

Indeed, Sampras and Steffi Graf hung up their racquets at the first intimation of a weakening of this will. But the ability to sustain it is what came to mark Serena's incredible late-career dominance; it is what rendered her seemingly immune to time and the physical and mental weariness that accompany the grind of tennis. It is also, perhaps, what she is missing now at crucial moments.

When 17-year-old Caty McNally took the first set off Serena in their second-round encounter at the US Open in 2019, her coach Kevin P. O'Neill knew she was onto something. O'Neill, a pro-level coach for 28 years, tells *The Hindu*, "I knew if Caty could just relax, have fun and play her all-court attacking style, she might be able to put Serena on her heels if she wasn't playing her best."

This, now and before, seems to be the mantra for any player who meets Serena: play out of your skin, but also hope she has a bad day.

Never back down

McNally did just that to win the first set, leaving Serena unsettled. But the veteran quickly turned it around in the second and ensured a complete rout in the third. It was everything Serena was known for: uncanny court sense, unrestrained energy and the "Come ON!" representing an icy cool anger only she could control.

"I wasn't surprised that happened, because a champion of Serena's calibre doesn't go quietly. Even now, she loves to compete and put herself on the line," O'Neill says.

He adds, "Serena's belief and the way she confidently carries herself on court even when she is in deep trouble is something young players today look to emulate. I admire that quality and it's a big part of my coaching too."

What Serena managed to do against McNally, she could not against Bianca Andreescu in the final, the last of four consecutive Grand Slam title clashes she lost. "Honestly, Serena didn't show up today," she would say after the loss.

But the fact that she continues to play when the breadth of the women's field is so strong and against opponents who weren't even born when she burst onto the scene is yet another testament to her indomitable spirit. She is now a player anyone can beat and yet no one wants to meet.

Transcendent

For author and sports columnist Louisa Thomas, post-2018 is when Serena transcended the sport — not only the sport, in fact, but sport. "Her dominance, her longevity, her aura, the way she changed the game in her image — impossible to overstate," she tells *The Hindu*. "But after 2018, she helped reshape narratives around athletes and motherhood. She went from being regarded as the greatest female tennis player of all time to having an argument as the greatest tennis player of all time — and, finally, as one of the greatest of all time, full stop. Forget tennis."

If Serena wins Wimbledon or any other Major she chooses to be a part of hereafter, the case that she is not the greatest player in the history of the game more or less evaporates. But it is not just that record or a mere sense of completism that Serena is chasing. She wants a Grand Slam, yes. But she wants it as a mother. In half a century of professional tennis, only three women have landed Grand Slam titles after starting families: Court, Evonne Goolagong and Kim Clijsters.

To turn the clock back a decade again, the manner in which Serena ended 2012 could only be described as preposterous — two Majors, an Olympic gold and a year-ending championship. In 2013, she was close to unplayable: her winning percentage was 95.1, the highest of her career.

It would be a fool's errand to expect something similar, but can we expect anything at all? Her most vehement critics would say she will not break Court's record — and that's okay. Her most loyal fans would say it is only inevitable that she will match and soon overtake Court — and that's okay too.

But with everything before and after 2018, how should we be looking at Serena now?

Annacone sums it up best: "As a legend of the game that's earned the right to do as she wants. Play, stop, play part-time — whatever she does I will applaud."

STACKING UP

ATP Men's Top 15

#	PLAYER	AGE	POINTS	EVENTS
1	Novak Djokovic	35	8,660	13
2	Daniil Medvedev	26	7,980	22
3	Alexander Zverev	25	7,075	21
4	Stefanos Tsitsipas	23	5,965	24
5	Rafael Nadal	35	5,525	10
6	Carlos Alcaraz	19	4,648	20
7	Andrey Rublev	24	3,945	26
8	Casper Ruud	23	3,940	28
9	Felix Auger-Aliassime	21	3,820	26
10	Matteo Berrettini	26	3,805	18
11	Cameron Norrie	26	3,455	27
12	Jannik Sinner	20	3,185	29
13	Hubert Hurkacz	25	3,095	26
14	Taylor Fritz	24	2,920	27
15	Denis Shapovalov	23	2,531	22

Top Indians ▸

Ramkumar Ramanathan
Rank 175 ▲ 3 spots

Prajnesh Gunneswaran
Rank 276 ▼ 5 spots

WTA Women's Top 15

#	PLAYER	AGE	POINTS	EVENTS
1	Iga Swiatek	20	7,061	17
2	Barbora Krejcikova	26	4,911	18
3	Maria Sakkari	26	4,726	18
4	Paula Badosa	24	4,545	26
5	Anett Kontaveit	26	4,446	22
6	Ons Jabeur	27	4,380	20
7	Aryna Sabalenka	24	3,966	20
8	Karolina Pliskova	30	3,678	17
9	Danielle Collins	28	3,335	19
10	Garbine Muguruza	28	3,060	19
11	Jessica Pegula	28	2,955	20
12	Emma Raducanu	19	2,910	23
13	Jelena Ostapenko	24	2,536	19
14	Belinda Bencic	25	2,525	19
15	Victoria Azarenka	32	2,440	17

Top Indians ▸

Ankita Raina
Rank 345 ▼ 7 spots

Karman Thandi
Rank 478 ▼ 6 spots

English Premier League Standings

#	TEAM	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
1	Man. City	38	29	6	3	99	26	73	93
2	Liverpool	38	28	8	2	94	26	68	92
3	Chelsea	38	21	11	6	76	33	43	74
4	Tottenham	38	22	5	11	69	40	29	71
5	Arsenal	38	22	3	13	61	48	13	69
6	Man. United	38	16	10	12	57	57	0	58
7	West Ham	38	16	8	14	60	51	9	56
8	Leicester City	38	14	10	14	62	59	3	52
9	Brighton	38	12	15	11	42	44	-2	51
10	Wolves	38	15	6	17	38	43	-5	51
11	Newcastle	38	13	10	15	44	62	-18	49
12	Crystal Palace	38	11	15	12	50	46	4	48
13	Brentford	38	13	7	18	48	56	-8	46
14	Aston Villa	38	13	6	19	52	54	-2	45
15	Southampton	38	9	13	16	43	67	-24	40
16	Everton	38	11	6	21	43	66	-23	39
17	Leeds United	38	9	11	18	42	79	-37	38
18	Burnley	38	7	14	17	34	53	-19	35
19	Watford	38	6	5	27	34	77	-43	23
20	Norwich City	38	5	7	26	23	84	-61	22

Italian Serie A Standings

#	TEAM	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
1	AC Milan	38	26	8	4	69	31	38	86
2	Inter Milan	38	25	9	4	84	32	52	84
3	Napoli	38	24	7	7	74	31	43	79
4	Juventus	38	20	10	8	57	37	20	70
5	Lazio	38	18	10	10	77	58	19	64
6	Roma	38	18	9	11	59	43	16	63
7	Fiorentina	38	19	5	14	59	51	8	62
8	Atalanta	38	16	11	11	65	48	17	59
9	Verona	38	14	11	13	65	59	6	53
10	Torino	38	13	11	14	46	41	5	50
11	Sassuolo	38	13	11	14	64	66	-2	50
12	Udinese	38	11	14	13	61	58	3	47
13	Bologna	38	12	10	16	44	55	-11	46
14	Empoli	38	10	11	17	50	70	-20	41
15	Sampdoria	38	10	6	22	46	63	-17	36
16	Spezia	38	10	6	22	41	71	-30	36
17	Salernitana	38	7	10	21	33	78	-45	31
18	Cagliari	38	6	12	20	34	68	-34	30
19	Genoa	38	4	16	18	27	60	-33	28
20	Venezia	38	6	9	23	34	69	-35	27

Spanish LaLiga Standings

#	TEAM	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
1	Real Madrid	38	26	8	4	80	31	49	86
2	Barcelona	38	21	10	7	68	38	30	73
3	Atletico Madrid	38	21	8	9	65	43	22	71
4	Sevilla	38	18	16	4	53	30	23	70
5	Real Betis	38	19	8	11	62	40	22	65
6	Real Sociedad	38	17	11	10	40	37	3	62
7	Villarreal	38	16	11	11	63	37	26	59
8	Athletic Bilbao	38	14	13	11	43	36	7	55
9	Valencia	38	11	15	12	48	53	-5	48
10	Osasuna	38	12	11	15	37	51	-14	47
11	Celta Vigo	38	12	10	16	43	43	0	46
12	Rayo Vallecano	38	11	9	18	39	50	-11	42
13	Elche	38	11	9	18	40	52	-12	42
14	Espanyol	38	10	12	16	40	53	-13	42
15	Getafe	38	8	15	15	33	41	-8	39
16	Real Mallorca	38	10	9	19	36	63	-27	39
17	Cadiz	38	8	15	15	35	51	-16	39
18	Granada	38	8	14	16	44	61	-17	38
19	Levante	38	8	11	19	51	76	-25	35
20	Alaves	38	8	7	23	31	65	-34	31

German Bundesliga Standings

#	TEAM	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
1	Bayern	34	24	5	5	97	37	60	77
2	Dortmund	34	22	3	9	85	52	33	69
3	Leverkusen	34	19	7	8	80	47	33	64
4	RB Leipzig	34	17	7	10	72	37	35	58
5	Union Berlin	34	16	9	9	50	44	6	57
6	SC Freiburg	34	15	10	9	58	46	12	55
7	Cologne	34	14	10	10	52	49	3	52
8	Mainz	34	13	7	14	50	45	5	46
9	Hoffenheim	34	13	7	14	58	60	-2	46
10	M'gladbach	34	12	9	13	54	61	-7	45
11	Eintracht	34	10	12	12	45	49	-4	42
12	Wolfsburg	34	12	6	16	43	54	-11	42
13	Bochum	34	12	6	16	38	52	-14	42
14	FC Augsburg	34	10	8	16	39	56	-17	38
15	Stuttgart	34	7	12	15	41	59	-18	33
16	Hertha Berlin	34	9	6	19	37	71	-34	33
17	Arminia Bielefeld	34	5	13	16	27	53	-26	28
18	Greuther Furth	34	3	9	22	28	82	-54	18

Test Batting

#	PLAYER	RATING	CAREER BEST
1	Marnus Labuschagne	892	936
2	Steve Smith	845	947
3	Kane Williamson	844	919
4	Joe Root	843	917
5	Babar Azam	815	815
6	Dimuth Karunaratne	781	781
7	Usman Khawaja	757	757
8	Rohit Sharma	754	813
9	Travis Head	744	773
10	Virat Kohli	742	937

Test Bowling

#	PLAYER	RATING	CAREER BEST
1	Pat Cummins	901	914
2	R. Ashwin	850	904
3	Jasprit Bumrah	830	835
4	Shaheen Afridi	827	827
5	Kyle Jamieson	820	825
6	Kagiso Rabada	818	902
7	Tim Southee	790	839
8	Neil Wagner	777	859
9	James Anderson	765	903
10	Josh Hazlewood	752	863

ODI Batting

#	PLAYER	RATING	CAREER BEST
1	Babar Azam	891	891
2	Virat Kohli	811	911
3	Imam-ul-Haq	795	795
4	Rohit Sharma	791	885
5	Quinton de Kock	789	813
6	Jonny Bairstow	775	796
7	Ross Taylor	775	841
8	R. van der Dussen	769	776
9	David Warner	750	880
10	Aaron Finch	745	798

ODI Bowling

#	PLAYER	RATING	CAREER BEST
1	Trent Boult	726	770
2	Chris Woakes	700	731
3	Josh Hazlewood	698	733
4	Matt Henry	683	691
5	Mujeeb Ur Rahman	681	712
6	Jasprit Bumrah	679	841
7	Shaheen Afridi	671	671
8	Mehedi Hasan	661	725
9	Shakib Al Hasan	657	717
10	Rashid Khan	650	806

T20I Batting

#	PLAYER	RATING	CAREER BEST
1	Babar Azam	805	896
2	Aiden Markram	796	796
3	Mohammad Rizwan	794	798
4	Dawid Malan	728	915
5	Devon Conway	703	784
6	Aaron Finch	679	900
7	R. van der Dussen	669	780
8	Martin Guptill	658	793
9	Pathum Nissanka	654	685
10	K.L. Rahul	646	854

T20I Bowling

#	PLAYER	RATING	CAREER BEST
1	Tabraiz Shamsi	764	821
2	Adil Rashid	746	746
3	Josh Hazlewood	737	806
4	Adam Zampa	719	743
5	Rashid Khan	714	816
6	Wanindu Hasaranga	687	797
7	Anrich Nortje	655	655
8	Mujeeb Ur Rahman	654	745
9	Nasum Ahmed	637	637
10	Shaheen Afridi	634	634

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CREDAI

Namma Metro ridership crosses 4.6 lakh mark

BMRCL hopes it will surpass the 5 lakh mark in two months

SUCHITH KIDIYOOR
BENGALURU

After suffering reduced ridership and revenue in the last two years of the pandemic, Namma Metro ridership touched the 4.62 lakh mark recently. The Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) is hoping that in two months' time, the daily ridership would cross 5 lakh mark.

After the outbreak of the pandemic, like other transport systems, the BMRCL too saw a dip in ridership. However, in the last five months, there has been a gradual increase in the ridership.

BMRCL MD Anjum Parwez told *The Hindu* that the highest ridership was recorded last week. "There are various factors for increased ridership that include more employees returning back to office from work from home culture, opening of educational institutions and others. We have also noticed that when the city received heavy rain last week, people preferred to travel by metro. This week, daily ridership on weekdays ranged from 4.2 to 4.4 lakh."

The increase in cost of fuel also forced some passengers to opt for public transport. Vaishanvi, a passenger said, "Earlier, I was paying close to ₹300 to ₹400 per day for taxis, but now I have shifted to Namma Metro. Though first mile and last mile connectivity is an issue, I am taking a long walk to reach the metro station. Travelling in the metro has helped to save a considerable amount of money compared to taxis."

In the last five months, there has been a gradual increase in the ridership. • FILE PHOTO

DATA POINT

- Operational network - 55 km
- 13 km opened last year (Mysuru Road station to Kengeri and extended Green Line from Yelachenahalli to Silk Institute)
- Ridership and revenue in January - 96.50 lakh and ₹23.12 crore
- Ridership and revenue in April - 1.09 crore and ₹26.43 crore
- Highest ridership recorded after pandemic - 4.62 lakh
- Among the passengers 62 percent use smart cards and 38 percent use tokens to travel

The BMRCL has an operational network of 55 km, out of which 13 km were added last year by opening two lines – the extended Purple Line from Mysuru Road Station to Kengeri, and the extended Green Line from Yelachenahalli to Silk Institute. The number of operational metro stations on both the lines has increased from 41 stations to 52 stations.

In January, a total of 96.5 lakh people used the service, and it jumped to 1.09 crore in April, while the revenue went from ₹23.12 crore to ₹26.43 crore in the same period. In May, the revenue generation crossed ₹1 crore per day on weekdays. As many as 62% of passengers use smart cards to travel, while 38% use tokens.

Though the number of riders is increasing gradually, the BMRCL has no plans to add more schedules. Executive Director (Maintenance and operations) A.S. Shankar said, "We are operating 146 trips of trains on the Purple Line and 141 on the Green Line. Trains are being operated with a frequency of 4 to 5 minutes and these six coach trains can accommodate more passengers. There is no need for running additional trains for current demand."

Metro service to be disrupted today

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The BMRCL has announced curtailment of metro services on the Purple Line from Baiyappanahalli to M.G. Road to facilitate maintenance work.

In a press release, the BMRCL has stated that on Saturday (May 28), from 9.30 p.m. metro services will be suspended to carry out maintenance work from M.G. Road to Trinity. However, the train service will be available from M.G. Road to Kengeri.

The last train from Kengeri to Baiyappanahalli will be available at 8.40 p.m. and Baiyppanahalli to Kengeri at 9.10 p.m. The last train from Majestic to Baiyappanahalli will leave at 9.10 p.m.

Subsequently, train services are available up to M.G. Road. Normal services on the entire purple line will be available from Sunday 7 a.m.

Ten arrested for drug-peddling

34.89 kg of heroin and ₹5.8 lakh in cash recovered from them

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

The Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB), Bengaluru, busted a heroin peddling network operating across the country. NCB sleuths arrested the kingpin of the network, a Nigerian national based out of New Delhi and nine of his associates, and recovered 34.89 kg of heroin and ₹5.8 lakh in cash from the arrested.

Acting on a tip-off, the sleuths arrested two women at Kempegowda International Airport on May 24 when they returned from Zimbabwe and recovered 7 kg of heroin concealed in the false bottom of a suitcase. Their interrogation led to the recovery of another 6.89 kg of heroin concealed in another suitcase in a hotel room.

Further investigation revealed that three other passengers with similar consignment had touched down at KIA and left for Delhi boarding Rajdhani Express. Immediately, the Indore NCB team was alerted and it led to the recovery of another 21 kg of heroin hidden similarly in suitcases from three ladies from a lodge at Itarsi, Madhya Pradesh. Their interrogation led to information about these five women, who were intercepted and arrested at KIA. They led the sleuths to the kingpin, a Nigerian national in New Delhi, where he was arrested with three other female African nationals, who were his associates, officials said.

Free medical screening today

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

ITI Limited, in association with other organizations, will conduct a free medical camp for breast and prostate cancer screening on Saturday at ITI Hospital premises, (ITI Bangalore Plant), Doorvaninagar, from 9.30 a.m. onwards. ITI Ltd. in a release said that the medical camp is open not only for ITI Limited employees but also for the general public.

Three arrested

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

The HSR Layout Traffic Police arrested three people in connection with the death of a four-year-old girl who was mowed down by a water tanker on Thursday.

The police arrested M.D. Raqib, the driver, the owner of the tanker R. Anand, 47, and another man Ramesh Babu, 36, who surrendered before the police falsely claiming he caused the accident.

Following the accident, the HSR Traffic Police had served a notice to R. Anand, asking him to bring the driver to the police. Anand produced Ramesh Babu as the driver, who was then detained by the police and questioned. However, investigations revealed that Ramesh was not the driver, but had agreed to surrender by falsely claiming so on the assurance of being paid handsomely by Anand. The police arrested both Anand and Ramesh for providing false information and for being an imposter. They eventually arrested Raqib, whom Anand was trying to protect too.

Timings
BENGALURU

SATURDAY, MAY. 28	
RISE 05:53	SET 18:41
RISE 04:12	SET 17:01
SUNDAY, MAY. 29	
RISE 05:53	SET 18:42
RISE 04:53	SET 17:51
MONDAY, MAY. 30	
RISE 05:53	SET 18:42
RISE 05:34	SET 18:42

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	32	24
Mysuru	32	21
Bengaluru	31	22

Bengaluru Today
32°C The weather will be mostly dry. Day will be little warm but humid. Night will be pleasant. Thunderstorm may occur.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
32°C A dry weather to prevail. Day will be little warm but humid. Night will be comfortable.

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LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF THE XXXIII ADDITIONAL CITY CIVIL JUDGE AT BENGALURU (C.C.H. No. 33)
F.D.P. No. 7 / 2022

Between : Smt. DEEPTI JAIN, Aged about 35 years, D/o. Smt. Prema, R/at: No.13, Chowdappa Road, Shanthi Nagar, Bengaluru - 560 027. ...PETITIONER

And : Smt. SANGEETHA BAGAL, Aged about 54 years, W/o. Sri. Sunil Bagal, R/at: No. 14/4, Langford Road, Shanthi Nagar, Bengaluru - 560 025.

And Also at: No.1, Santosh Complex, K.G Circle, Bengaluru - 560 009. ...RESPONDENT

Summons to the Respondent U/o V Rule 20 CPC

Smt. SANGEETHA BAGAL, Aged about 54 years, W/o. Sri. Sunil Bagal, R/at: No. 14/4, Langford Road, Shanthi Nagar, Bengaluru - 560 025.

And Also at: No. 1, Santosh Complex, K.G Circle, Bengaluru - 560 009.

WHEREAS, the petitioner has filed the above petition against you seeking to pass a final decree in terms of the preliminary passed in O.S. No. 5733 / 2016 dated 20.06.2017 in respect of suit schedule 'A', 'B' and 'C' properties and for such other reliefs.

Therefore, you are hereby summoned to appear before this Hon'ble Court either in person or through duly appointed pleader who is able to answer all material questions relating to the above petition **on 10.06.2022 at 11.00 a.m.,** failing which the matter will be heard and decided ex-parte in your absence.

SCHEDULE "A" PROPERTY

All that piece of parcel of property of immovable property admeasuring 24062.50 Sq.Ft. Bearing HASB No.40B/2 and New Municipal No. 8 situated at Murugesh Palya (Off Airport Road), now known as Avalappa Layout, consisting of a multi storied apartment building named "Prudential Maruthi", bound as follows: East by: Private Road Property admeasuring 280 ft. On side; West by: Murugesh Palya, Chaighatta Road Property admeasuring 270 ft. On that side, South by: Private property admeasuring 85 ft. on that side; North by: Property belonging to Shri. G. Ramaiah Reddy, admeasuring 90ft. on that side.

SCHEDULE "B" PROPERTY

0.79% of undivided share, right, title and interest in land area of Schedule A property above referred to being equivalent to 180-096 square feet.

SCHEDULE "C" PROPERTY

Apartment Unit No. C-4009, situated at Level-B, 6th Floor of the building named as "PRUDENTIAL MARUTHI" which is bearing New Municipal No. 8/68, of Avalappa Layout, Murugesh Palya, Bengaluru, which is having BBMP PID No. 73-29-08/68 and the same is having a super built up area of 650 square feet, with RCC roof, Mosaic Flooring, Steel Doors and Windows, with all amenities.

Given under my hand and seal of the court on 26.5.2022.

By Order of the Court, Assistant Register, City Civil Court, Bangalore
Advocate for Petitioner
S.D.N. PRASAD, M.N. UMESH, H.G. SHIVARAJ & Ms. MEHRAJ SULTANA .A. Advocates
No.24/1, 1st Cross, C.S.I. Compound, Mission Road, Bengaluru - 560 027.
Ph: 9448560373

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to bring to the notice of the general public that our client **Mr. SUNIL DENNIS KUMAR R** S/o. Sri. Rajashekar is intending to purchase the schedule property mentioned hereunder from **Mr. D. DOORVASALU alias DOORAVASULU** S/o Sri. Doraiswamy, any person/s objecting for the proposed purchase or are having any right, title, interest or any type of claim over the scheduled property is hereby called upon to file their objections/claims what so ever along with documentary proof within **7 days** from the date of publication of this notice with the under mentioned advocate failing which; our client/s shall proceed and complete the sale transaction with the above stated person.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the Eastern Portion of the **Site No. 22,** in Khatha No. 22, formed out of Old property No. 191/3, situated at **Bidarahalli Village, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk** measuring East to West 25 Feet and North to South on Eastern side 46 Feet and on Western side 50 Feet, in all total area measuring 1200 square Feet along with the residential building standing thereon and bounded on the: **East by : Site No. 21, West by : Remaining Portion of same Site No.22, North by : 25 Feet Road, South by : Private Property.**

C.K.V.K. LAW ASSOCIATES
Mr. VENKATESH CHANDRAN M.A., L.L.B.
Advocates & Legal Consultants
Bangalore-560 043. Contact : 9845646428

PUBLIC NOTICE

Our client Smt. Shakuntala .S W/o.Late S. Shivakumar, aged about 65 years, R/at:No.49, 18th Cross road, 21st Main, MRCR layout, Vijayanagara, Bangalore -5 60 040. And also R/at.No.326, 'Sheranubenaka Nilaya', Opp APMC Yard, Behind Vaishnavidevi Temple, Eshwarnagar, Ankolekar Layout, Navanagar, Hubli-580025. Intends to entered into an agreement of sale to purchase the Site bearing no. 57 more fully mentioned in the schedule herein below from Sri.Y. L. Srinivas Bhat(Bhattaji) S/o Sri. Laxminarayana Bhat, aged about 78 years, R/at. No.75-76, Sri Nilaya, Kallahalli, Visobanagara, Behind Kariyanna Building, Shimoga-577204. If any person's or financial institution's or bank's etc., has/have got any claim or right over the schedule property should file his/her/their objection's in writing along with necessary documents in support of his/her/their claim to the undersigned within ten days from the date of this notice. Objections will not be entertained after ten days and our client will proceed to conclude the sale transaction with the said persons in respect of the schedule property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY:

All that part and parcel of the vacant site bearing No.57, the property comes under BBMP Ward No 128; PID No.39-191-57, New PID No.128-we128-4, Situated at Karnataka Income Tax HBCS Layout, Chandra Layout, in Sy no 48/9, 48/12, 48(P1.54/1 and 79 of Nagarabhavi Village, Yeshwanthpura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore, the property measuring East to West 39+38/2 Feet, North to South 30 Feet, in totally measuring 1155 Square Feet, Bangalore bounded on East by: Private Layout, West by: Road, North by: Site No.58, South by: Site No 56.

BHASKARA .M, Advocate
No.62/2, 27th Cross, Cubbonpet Main Road, Bangalore-560 002. M: 9880127120
Date: 27-5-2022

TITAN COMPANY LIMITED
3, SIPCOT INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX, HOSUR 635126

NO: TCL/CIVIL/01/22-23 May 28, 2022

TENDER NOTICE

We intent to invite tenders for Annual Maintenance Contracts for the below mentioned works at our Watch Division, Plot Number: 3, 4 & 5 SIPCOT industrial complex, Hosur – 635126:

1. Up keeping works (Involves Cleaning of roads, external areas of buildings, granite pathways, storm water drains, cleaning and clearing of buffing waste from the dust extraction systems, cleaning of effluent collection tanks etc.)
2. Pump House Operation (Includes Monitoring & distribution of raw water, plumbing and sanitary activities and cleaning of overhead tanks).
3. Landscape Maintenance
4. Masonry works
5. Carpentry works
6. Pest Control activities
7. Wall painting

Pre-qualification for the Tenderer –

- PAN, GST, ESI, PF registration and MSME certificate if applicable are mandatory
- Comply with all statutory requirements as per Factories Act and to consider minimum wages act while quoting the rates
- Comply with industry safety norms and use all necessary Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) as per the requirement of Titan Company Limited (TCL) to ensure safety of their workmen inside TCL premises.

A vendor is eligible only for participating in maximum of any two contracts listed above and tender documents will be issued accordingly.

TCL reserves the right to issue or not to issue the tender documents to the agencies based on their previous performance at TCL

The tender forms, terms and conditions, specifications etc. can be received from "Civil Department, Watch division, No. 3, SIPCOT Industrial Complex, HOSUR – 635126, Tamilnadu" against submission of Rs 5000/- (Rupees five thousands only) as a tender fee in favour of DD/Pay order drawn in favour of "Titan Company Limited", payable at Hosur from today.

Titan reserves the right to accept/reject any or all the tenders or part of it without assigning any reason thereof.

The completed tender forms to be sent to Titan on or before 3rd Jun, 2022.

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
E-Tender Notice Bid No.: GEM/2022/B/2203396
Dated : 24-05-2022
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tenders for the following work.

Name of the Work	Approx. Value
Bengaluru Division - The work of Washing & Ironing of Bedroll Linens supplied to AC coach passengers in various trains of Bengaluru, Yesvantpur & SMVB depots for a period of One (01) year including collection from train, transportation to laundry & delivery back to the nominated trains.	Rs. 5,30,41,092.83

Last date for submission of bids: **Upto 14:00 Hrs. on 14-06-2022**
For details log on: https://gem.gov.in
Senior Divisional Mechanical Engineer
Bengaluru
PUB/112/AAS/PRB/SWR/2022-23
S.W.Railways SWRRLY SWRRLY

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
E-Tender Notice No.: RESBC_EL_Gr.259_OT-04
Dated : 24-05-2022
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tenders for the following work.

Name of the Work	Approx. Value
Unloading & Dragging of Traction Power Transformer at different Traction Substation and Digitization, Supply, Fixing of sectioning diagram board, small board, big boards from Nittur to Hubballi in Bengaluru, Mysuru & Hubballi division over South Western Railway in connection to the RE work of Gr.259 (Chikkabanavara - Hubballi).	Rs. 39,88,030.57

Last date for submission of bids: **Upto 15:00 Hrs. on 15-06-2022**
For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in
Deputy Chief Electrical Engineer Railway Electrification, Mysuru
PUB/111/AAS/PRB/SWR/2022-23
S.W.Railways SWRRLY SWRRLY

PUBLIC NOTICE

Our Client intends to purchase the BDA Sites bearing No.853 & 853-A, measuring 571.20 Square Meters, 6th stage, 11th Block, Banashankari, BDA Layout, Bangalore, morefully described in the Schedule hereunder and hereinafter referred to as Schedule Property. The general public is hereby informed that any person/s having or asserting any right, title and interest or making any claim in respect of the Schedule Property may send their objections in writing with documentary proof to the undersigned within Ten (10) Days from the date of this publication. If no claim or objection is received within the stipulated time, it shall be presumed that no one is having any right, title, claim or interest over the schedule property and our client will proceed with the completion of the sale in respect of the schedule property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

(i) BDA Site bearing No.853, measuring East to West 24 Metres and North to South (10 + 14)/2 Metres, totally measuring 288 Square Metres and bounded on: **East :** Road, **West :** Site No.831 & 832 **North :** Site No.853/A, **South :** Temple

(ii) BDA Site bearing No.853-A, measuring East to West 24 Metres and North to South 11.80 Metres totally measuring 283.20 Square Metres and bounded on: **East :** Road, **West :** Site No.831 & 832, **North:** Private Property **South :** Temple

Site No.(i) and (ii) situated at Banashankari 6th Stage, 11th Block, BDA Layout, Bangalore

R PURSHOTAM
Advocate, RPM Associates
No.7, I Floor, Yamunabai Road, Madhavanagar, Bangalore-560001
Mobile : 9980200300

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that our client intends to purchase the following properties Any person objecting to the proposed sale of the Schedule Properties are called upon to submit to us the details of such objections, in writing, together with copies of supporting documents, within a period of one week from the publication of this Notice. If no objections are received by us within the one week period, our client will proceed to purchase the Schedule Properties and neither will any objections thereto be entertained by our client thereafter nor will such objections, if any, be considered tenable against the Schedule Properties.

SCHEDULE PROPERTIES

Item No : 1
All the piece and parcel of the property jointly owned by Sri. Narayanaswamy M, Sri. Mantalappa @ V.M Mantalappa, Smt. Shanthamma Pulliyappa @ Shanthamma, Smt. Jayalakshmamma @ Jayalakshmi @ Jayamma, Sri. Murthy @ M.R.L Murthy, Shri. Jayappa, Sri Srinivasa S. Sri.Narayanappa @ Narayanappa V.K., Sri.Sampath Kumar @ Sampath Kumar K H. Sri. Rajappa bearing Survey No. 113, measuring 03 Acres 05 Guntas, situated at Vagata Village, Jadigenahalli Hobli, Hoskote Taluk, Bangalore Rural District and bounded on:
East by : Survey No. 114/1
West by : Survey No. 112/2 and Road
North by : Survey No. 115/3 and 115/4
South by : Survey No. 114/4

Item No : 2
All the piece and parcel of the property jointly owned by Mr.Abdul Shukur, S/o late Mr. Dastageri sabi, bearing Survey No. 114-5, measuring 21.08 Guntas (including 1 Guntas Kharab), situated at Vagata Village, Jadigenahalli Hobli, Hoskote Taluk, Bangalore Rural District and bounded on:
East by : Survey No. 114-2
West by : Survey No. 114-4
North by : Survey No. 114-1
South by : Survey No. 139-1 & 139-4

DHANANJAY JOSHI ASSOCIATES
Advocates
No. 18/4, 1st Floor, Saleh Centre Annexe, Cunningham Road
Bangalore 560052
Tel. No.: 22200220

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the public at large that we, M/s. Walden Properties Pvt Ltd, M/s. Mantri Developers Pvt Ltd. and Mr. B.N. Adarsh ("Owners"), have lost/misplaced thefollowing Original Title Documents with regard to all that piece and parcel of lands bearing (i) Survey No. 24/2 measuring 25 Guntas, (ii) Survey No. 24/3 measuring 26 Guntas, (iii) Survey No. 27/1 measuring 14 Guntas, (iv) Survey No. 27/2 measuring 13 Guntas, (v) Survey No. 26/1 measuring 17 Guntas, (vi) Survey No.21/2 measuring 24 Guntas, (vii) Survey No.21/3 measuring 30 Guntas, (iix) Survey No.21/4 measuring 24 Guntas, (ix) Survey No.21/7 measuring 3 Guntas, (x) Survey No.23/1 measuring 19 Guntas, (xi) Survey No.23/6 measuring 12 Guntas, (xii) Survey No.16 measuring 1 Acre 26 ¼ Guntas (xiii) Survey No.18 measuring 37 ¼ Guntas (xiv) Survey No.20 measuring 30 Guntas, (xv) SurveyNo.30/1 measuring 08 Guntas, all situated at Ramagondanahalli Village, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk and (i) Survey No.353/1 measuring 09½ Guntas, (ii) Survey No.350/4 measuring 16 Guntas (iii) Survey No.355/3 measuring 19 Guntas and (iv) Survey No.350/2 measuring 06 Guntas all are situated at Ammani Bellenduru Khane Village, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, together hereinafter referred to as "Said Property"and that till date the same is not traceable despite diligent search.

Re: Ramagondanahalli Village lands:

ORIGINAL TITLE DOCUMENTS

1. General Power of Attorney dated 08.11.2004, executed by Venkatalakshmamma in favour of Anjinappa sworn in the presence of B.L Chidambara Reddy, Advocate and Notary, with regard to Survey Nos. 24/2, 24/3, 27/1 & 27/2;
2. Sale Deed dated 03.10.1991, executed by Krishnappa s/o Late Muninanjappa in favour of D.M.Munivenkatappa s/o Late Dodda Muniswamappa (registered as Document No.2749/91-92 of Book I, Volume 3410 at Pages 50 to 54 in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Bangalore South Taluk) with regard to Survey No.26/1 measuring 17 Guntas;
3. Sale Deed dated 05.12.1994, executed by Sunkamma wife of late Subba Reddy in favour of M.Munishamappa son of T.R.Muniswamappa (registered as Document No.6530/94-95 of Book I, Volume 4031 at Pages 179 to 182 in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Bangalore South Taluk) with regard to portion of Survey No.21/2 measuring 06 Guntas;
4. Sale Deed dated 17.02.2004, executed by M.Muniswamappa son of T.R.Muniswamappa in favour of S.V.Gopal Reddy son of S.L.Venkataswamy Reddy (registered as Document No.23405/2003-04 of Book I, and stored in CD No.BASD 16 in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Bangalore South Taluk), with regard to portion of Survey No.21/2 measuring 06 Guntas;
5. General Power of Attorney dated 28.09.2004,executed by S.V.Gopal Reddy son of S.L.Venkataswamy Reddy in favour of Nandini Alva (registered as Document No.535/2004-05 of Book IV and stored in CD No.BASD 99 in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Bangalore South Taluk) with regard to portion of Survey No.21/2 measuring 06 Guntas;
6. General Power of Attorney dated 07.02.2005, executed by Yellamma alias Malamma w/o Mariyappa in favour of Gowramma w/o Subbanna with regard to Survey No.21/2 measuring 03 Guntas;
7. Sale Deed dated 14.11.2005, executed by (a) M. Ramu alias Rama son of late Munipapaiah (for self, as father and natural guardian of his minor son Shashidhar), (b) his wife Nagamma, (c) Varalakshmi, (d) Raju and duly consented by P. Munivenkatappa in favour of S. Sampangi Reddy son of late Siddareddy (registered as Document No. BAS-1-09843/2005-06 in Book-I, stored in CD No. BASD193, in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Bangalore South Taluk) with regard to Survey No. 21/3, measuring about 10 Guntas;
8. General Power of Attorney24.02.2005, executed by Ramakka w/o Late Muniswamappa, & her children Subramani, Nagesh, Vishwanatha, Saraswathamma, Shakuntalamma, Lokeshamma, Gowramma, and Kalavathi in favour of Sampangi Reddy s/o Late Sidda Reddy (registered as Document No.1019/2004-05 of Book IV and stored in CD No.141 in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Bangalore South Taluk) with regard to Survey No.21/4 measuring 10 Guntas;
9. Sale Deed dated 17.07.1995, executed by Chikkonu son of late Muniswamy, Muniyappa,Munichinnappa, Mariyappa, Ramachandra, Subbaraya, Munikrishna (all sons of Chikkonu), Abbaiah son of late Muniswamy, Srinivas, Venkatesh and Muniswamy (all sons of Abbaiah) in favour of Mohammed Musthafa son of late Abdul Rehman (registered as Document No. 2936/1995-96, in Book I, Volume No. 4298, at pages 96 to 103, in office of the Sub-Registrar, Bangalore South Taluk), with regard to portion of Survey No. 21/7 measuring about 01 Guntas;
10. Sale Deed dated 29.04.2004, executed by M. Muniswamappa son of T. R. Muniswamappa alias Venkataramanappa in favour of Narayanaswamy son of Munisanjeevappa (registered as Document No. 2171/2004-05 in Book I, stored in CD. No. BASD63, in office of the Sub-Registrar, Bangalore South Taluk) with regard to portion of Survey No. 23/1 measuring about 09 ½ Guntas;
11. Sale Deed dated 09.11.2004, executed by Venkatamma wife of late Ramaiah and duly consented by her daughters Munivenkatamma and Muthamma in favour of Harikrishna son of late Ramaswamy (registered as Document No. 20064/2004-05 in Book I, stored in CD. No. BASD109, in office of the Sub-Registrar, Bangalore South Taluk) with regard to portion of Survey No. 23/1 measuring about 09 ½ Guntas;
12. Sale Deed dated 17.02.2004, executed by Munemma wife of late Munivenkatappa and her children Muniraj, Suresh and Ramesh in favour of M. Narayanaswamy son of Munisanjeevappa (registered as Document No. 23404/2003-04 in Book-I, stored in CD No. BASD16, in office of the Sub-Registrar, Bangalore South Taluk), with regard to Survey No.23/6 measuring about 12 Guntas;
13. Sale Deed dated 11.10.1991, executed by Muniyamma wife of late Muniyappa in favour of Govindappa son of Marappa (registered as Document No.2911/1991-92, Book I, Volume 3417, at pages 60 to 63 in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Bangalore South Taluk) with regard to Survey No.30/1 measuring about 08 Guntas;
14. Sale Deed dated 21.02.1992, executed by Muniyamma, wife of late Muniyappa duly consented by M.Devraj in favour of Anneppa, son of late Thadeppa registered as Document No.5583/91-92 in Book-I, Volume 3523 at Pages 79 to 82, in the office of the Sub Registrar, Bangalore South Taluk) with regard to portion of Survey No.16 measuring about 7 ¼ Guntas;
15. Sale Deed dated 31.03.1993, executed by Narayanappa, son of late Thadepps duly consented by his son Krishnappa in favour of Munishami, son of late Motappa and Yellamma, wife of Munishami (registered as Document No.7612/92-93 in Book-I, Volume 3714 at Pages 45 to 48, in the office of the Sub- Registrar, Bangalore South Taluk) with regard to portion of Survey No.16 measuring about 17 ½ Guntas;
16. Sale Deed dated 24.03.1995, executed by A. Shyamanna, son of late Andyappa duly consented by M.Muniswami, in favour of Pramod, son of Govinda (registered a Document No.10051/94-95 in Book-I, Volume 4145 at Pages 111 to 115, in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Bangalore South Taluk) with regards to portion of Survey No.16 measuring about 16 Guntas out of 2 Acres 37 Guntas;
17. Sale Deed dated 24.03.1995, executed by M.Muniswamy, son of Motappa in favour of Pramod, son of Govinda (registered as Document No.10053/94-95 in Book-I, Volume 4128 at Pages 141 to 145 in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Bangalore South Taluk) with regard to portion of Survey No.16 measuring about 10 Guntas out of 02 Acres 37 Guntas;
18. Sale Deed dated 24.03.1995, executed by M.Muniswamy, son of Motappa and Yellamma, wife of M.Muniswamy in favour of Pramod, son of Govinda (registered as Document No.10058/94-95 in Book-I, Volume 4135 at Pages 75 to 79 in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Bangalore South Taluk) with regard to portion of Survey No.16 measuring 17 ½ Guntas out of 02 Acres 37 Guntas;
19. Sale Deed dated 26.04.1995, executed by Muniyamma wife of late Muniyappa, Devaraja, C.Thyagaraja, Rajanna and Suresh all sons of late Muniyappa and Govindappa son of V.Marappa and duly confirmed by Byrappa H.K. son of B.Krishnappa (agreement holder) in favour of Mohammed Mustafa, son of late Abdul Rehman (registered as Document No.4322/96-97 in Book-I, the office of the Sub-Registrar, Bangalore South Taluk), with regard to portion of Survey Nos. 16 and 18 measuring about 01 Acre 8 ¾ Guntas;
20. Sale Deed dated 04.05.1995, executed by Anneppa, son of Thadeppa and his sons Muniyellappa, Munishamy and Nagesh in favour of Mohammed Mustafa, son of late Abdul Rehman (registered as Document No.3582/1995-96 in Book-I in the office of the Sub -Registrar, Bangalore South Taluk) with regard to portion of Survey No.16 measuring about 7 ½ ;
21. Sale Deed dated 27.12.1993, executed by Muniyamma wife of late Muniyappa duly consented by her son Suresh in favour of Govindappa son of late Marappa (registered as Document No. 3825/93-94 in Book I, Volume 3819 at Pages 21 to 24, in office of the Sub-Registrar, Bangalore South Taluk) with regard to portion of Survey No.18 measuring about 02 Guntas;
22. Sale Deed dated 10.10.1994, executed by Muniyamma wife of late Muniyappa duly consented by her sons Devaraj, Tyagaraj, Suresh and Prakash in favour of C. Chandraraj son of late Chinnappa (registered as Document No.4750/94-95 in Book-I, stored in Volume.3996 at Pages 122 to 126 in office of the Senior Sub-Registrar, Bangalore South Taluk), with regard to Survey No.18 measuring about 07 Guntas;
23. Sale Deed dated 26.04.1995, executed by Muniyamma wife of late Muniyappa, Devaraja, C.Thyagaraja, Rajanna and Suresh all sons of late Muniyappa and Govindappa son of V.Marappa and duly consented by agreement holder Byrappa H.K. son of B.Krishnappa in favour of Mohammed Mustafa on late Abdul Rehman (registered as Document No.4322/96-97 in Book-I, in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Bangalore South Taluk), with regard to portion of Survey No.16 and 18 measuring about 01 Acre 8 ¾ Guntas;
24. Sale Deed dated 04.05.1995, executed by Anneppa son of Thadeppa and his sons namely Muniyellapa, Munishamy & Nagesh in favour of Mohammed Mustafa, son of late Abdul Rehman (registered as Document No.3582/96-97 in Book-I, in the office of the Sub Registrar, Bangalore South Taluk) with regard to portion of Survey No.20 measuring about 25 ½ Guntas;
25. Sale Deed dated 14.07.1995, executed by Muniyamma wife of late Kenchappa, and her sons Krishnappa, Munikrishnappa and Gopalakrishna in favour of MohammedMustafa son of late Abdul Rehaman (registered as Document No.2820/95-96 in Book- I, Volume 4320 at Pages 1 to 10 in the office of Sub-Registrar, Bangalore South Taluk) with regard to portion of Survey No.20 measuring about 4 ½ Guntas;
26. Common General Power of Attorney dated 19.02.2005, executed by B. N. Adarsh son of B.S.N. Hari in favour of R. A. Narasimha Reddy son of late Anjanappa Reddy and Shashi Shekhar son of late Melaiah (registered as Document No. 857/2004-05 in Book- I, stored in CD No. JAYD42, in office of the Sub-Registrar, Jayanagar, Bangalore Urban District);

Re: Amani Bellandur Khane Village lands:

27. Sale Deed dated 18.02.1995, executed by Jayamma wife of late Krishnappa, represented by her attorney holder Ramakrishnappa son of Chikkabachappa in favour of Yashodamma wifeofRamakrishnappa (registered as Document No.8670/1994-95, in Book-I, Volume-4067, at Pages 206 to 208, in office of the Sub-Registrar, Bangalore South Taluk), with regard to portion of Survey No. 353/1 measuring about 09 ½ Guntas;
28. Sale Deed dated 30.08.1993, executed by Narayanappa son of Late Thimmarayappa in favour of Yellamma wife of Muniyappa (registered as Document No.2031/93-94 of Book I, Volume 3758 at Pages 245 to 247 in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Bangalore South Taluk), with regard to Survey No.350/4 measuring 05 Guntas;
29. Sale Deed dated 24.03.2005, executed by Yellamma, her husband Muniyappa, and children Nagaraj, Krishna, Venkatesh, in favour of V.Narayanappa s/o Venkataswami (registered as Document No.26836/2003-04 of Book I, and stored in CD No.BASD 37 in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Bangalore South Taluk), with regard to survey No.350/4 measuring 05 Guntas;
30. Gift Deed dated 24.09.2003, executed by Lakshmamma wife of C. Patel, in favour of N. Rajeshwari wife of Shrinivas, (registered as Document No.13189/2003-04 in Book-I, as CD No. 118, in office of the Sub-Registrar, Bangalore South Taluk), with regard to Survey No. 353/3 measuring about 19 Guntas;
31. Sale Deed dated 16.10.2003, executed by Vazir Sab son of late Abdul Sattar Sab represented by his attorney holder Mohammad Ghouse @ Manan son of Abdul Rahim in favour of Muniswamy @ Muniswamyraj son of Ramaiah (registered as Document No.13861/2003-04 in Book-I, stored in CD No.119 in office of the Sub-Registrar, Bangalore South Taluk) with regard to Survey No.350/2 measuring about 6 Guntas;

We have filed a complaint bearing Ref. No. 107/2022 dated 26.05.2022 with GSC No. PO1394220600157 intimating the loss/misplacement of above said Original Title Documents of the Said Property with High Grounds Police Station, on 26.05.2022 and we have requested the jurisdictional police to return the Original Title Documents in the event of the same being traced or anyone finding the same and delivering to the Police. Any person or persons having found the Original Title Documents may return to the below mentioned address.

Place: Bangalore
Date: 27.05.2022

M/s. Mantri Developers Private Limited,
Mantri House, No.41,
Vittal Mallya Road, Bengaluru 560001.

‘When I was competing, I had meaning in my life’

I don't regret [needling Bolt] at all. Our rivalry was needed for the sport and the fans. Everyone wants to see two titans at the top of their game. I was the person to restart the competitor in Bolt, because I am a competitor myself

• GETTY IMAGES

Justin Gatlin talks about beating idol Maurice Greene to Olympic gold, duelling and playing mind-games with the great Usain Bolt, and bouncing back from the ignominy of two doping bans

ASHWIN ACHAL

Even as a kid in Brooklyn (New York), Justin Gatlin was fast. He may not have been aware of career possibilities in track and field, but he had all the qualities of an athlete.

"When I was young, my life was all about how high I could jump, and how fast I could run. I used to jump over fire hydrants in Brooklyn, and I raced other kids down the neighbourhood streets," Gatlin said.

"I was much, much faster than all the other kids. I would tell them to get on their bikes, and still defeat them. I knew there was something special in me, even if I did not know that track and field was an organised sport."

The first ever professional 100m race I ran against Greene was an out-of-body experience... I had pictures of Greene all over my wall. I called myself 'Justin Greene'. One fine day, I woke up at the Olympics start-line alongside the guy who inspired me

The American, the brand ambassador of the TCS World 10K Bengaluru, would go on to compete and excel in official track events during his high school (Woodham High School, Florida) and college (University of Tennessee) years. His idol was two-time Olympic gold medallist and five-time World Championship winner Maurice Greene.

Gatlin would get his chance to take on Greene on the grandest stage — the 2004 Athens Olympics. Gatlin mentioned that even earning a spot in the USA team for the Olympics was a big feat. "Making it to the 2004 Olympics was a eureka moment. It is especially hard to make it to the USA team, as we always have a terrific pool of sprinters," Gatlin said.

At the 2004 United States Olympic trials held in Sacramento, Gatlin finished second in the 100m and 200m events. In the 100m, Gatlin (9.92s) was edged out by Greene (9.91s).

Come Athens, the script was set to change. Despite a slow start, Gatlin took gold in a tight finish, with Francis Obikwelu of Portugal one hundredth behind for the silver medal, and defending champion Greene another hundredth back for the bronze medal.

Living a dream

"I had pictures of Greene all over my wall. I called myself 'Justin Greene'. One fine day, I woke up at the Olympics start-line alongside the guy who inspired me," Gatlin said.

He made a conscious effort not to be overawed by the occasion — a condition that had afflicted him earlier. "The first ever professional 100m race I ran against Greene was an out-of-body experience. I watched in awe as Greene went past me and won. As soon as the race got over, my agent said, 'You are a professional athlete now. You're here to win, not watch your idol'. My agent was right," Gatlin said.

There would be no room for hero worship at Athens, as Gatlin ruined Greene's bid to win a second straight 100m Olympic gold. "I was happy to carry that sprint torch passed to me by Greene," Gatlin said.

Greene's career began to fade from here, even as a new dominant star emerged in Usain Bolt. Bolt, who would become one of the most decorated sprinters of all time, posed a massive challenge to Gatlin and other competitors.

Gatlin and Bolt went face to face on numerous occasions, with the latter frequently emerging on top. Bolt won gold the two times they met at the Olympics (London 2012 and Rio 2016), while Gatlin collected a bronze and a silver medal.

Their rivalry was fierce, fuelled by a contrasting approach to the sport, and life. Gatlin describes himself as intense, adding that on race day, he tried to "zone in, lock in, and become a tiger". Bolt, on the other hand, was relaxed and jocular in pressure situations.

Main-event feud

Bolt's easy demeanour made him a universal fan favourite. As Bolt's main rival, the stern-faced Gatlin was painted as the villain.

Gatlin did not help his cause by making boastful claims at the expense of Bolt. Things got heated when Bolt contemplated retirement before Rio 2016, citing a lack of motivation and interest in the sport. Gatlin responded by claiming that he would bring the gold medal back to the USA and showcase it in a grand parade. There were also insinuations that Bolt no longer had the stomach for a fight on the track.

This did not go down well with Bolt. In the documentary 'I am Bolt', the protagonist reveals that Gatlin's comments sparked a fire within him. The Jamaican returned with a vengeance, winning gold at Rio to become the first athlete to win the 100m three times at the Olympics.

Asked if he regretted poking the bear, Gatlin replied, "I don't regret it at all. If Bolt were to retire, and I had kept going, people would not have seen the best of our rivalry. Our rivalry was needed for the sport and the fans. Everyone wants to see two titans at the top of their game. I was the person to restart the competitor in Bolt, because I am a competitor myself. I want to be able to compete against the best Bolt, every single time."

Uncomfortable questions

As much as he would like his legacy to centre around his rivalry with Bolt, there is the big issue of doping that blighted Gatlin's career. He served two doping bans — the first in 2001 for testing positive for amphetamines, and the second in 2006 for testing positive for testosterone.

Gatlin does not shy away from taking questions on his doping offences. He even puts a positive spin on this embarrassment, stating that the time he served in suspension only made him that much more eager to return as a better athlete.

Being forced to sit out of the sport, however, did cause mental turmoil.

"When I was competing, I had meaning in my life. When I was suspended, I had to question myself — 'Who am I? Who is Justin?' It was hard for me to emotionally navigate through those four years (the second suspension). At the same time, physically, I yearned to be out there on the track.

"When I finally got past all those depressing moments, it actually lit a fire in me. I became firm in my belief that I have to be the person who controls my own destiny. I bet on myself, and that was the best way to go," Gatlin said.

After nearly two decades as a professional athlete, Gatlin hung up his boots earlier this year. The 40-year-old made the announcement on social media, after failing to make it to the USA track team for the Tokyo Olympics.

"After the Olympic trials, I laid in bed and cried. My whole career was centred around Olympic success. And then one day, all that was finished. Now I have to move on to a new journey," Gatlin said.

GAME THEORY

Premier League's season-toppers (attacking end product)

With the 2021-22 season of the English top-flight concluding last week, we take a look at the players who scored the most goals and laid on the most assists. Although Liverpool fell a point short of winning the championship, Mohamed Salah topped both the goals and assists charts. Harry Kane is the only player to make the top 10 in both categories

MOST GOALS

Player	Club	Games	Minutes	Goals	Goals per 90
Mohamed Salah	Liverpool	35	2,763	**23**	0.75
Son Heung-Min	Tottenham	35	3,021	**23**	0.69
Cristiano Ronaldo	Man. United	30	2,459	**18**	0.66
Harry Kane	Tottenham	37	3,232	**17**	0.47
Sadio Mane	Liverpool	34	2,825	**16**	0.51
Jamie Vardy	Leicester	25	1,806	**15**	0.75
Kevin De Bruyne	Man. City	30	2,205	**15**	0.61
Diogo Jota	Liverpool	35	2,373	**15**	0.57
Wilfried Zaha	Palace	33	2,761	**14**	0.46
Raheem Sterling	Man. City	30	2,127	**13**	0.55

Mohamed Salah

Son Heung-Min

Trent Alexander-Arnold

MOST ASSISTS

Player	Club	Games	Minutes	Assists	Assists per 90
Mohamed Salah	Liverpool	35	2,763	**13**	0.42
Trent Alexander-Arnold	Liverpool	32	2,854	**12**	0.38
Harvey Barnes	Leicester	32	2,107	**10**	0.43
Jarrod Bowen	West Ham	36	2,993	**10**	0.30
Mason Mount	Chelsea	32	2,365	**10**	0.38
Andrew Robertson	Liverpool	29	2,541	**10**	0.35
Reece James	Chelsea	26	1,868	**9**	0.43
Harry Kane	Tottenham	37	3,232	**9**	0.25
Paul Pogba	Man. United	20	1,355	**9**	0.60
Dejan Kulusevski	Tottenham	18	1,267	**8**	0.57

Note: Michail Antonio, Kevin De Bruyne, Gabriel Jesus and James Maddison also have eight assists but Dejan Kulusevski has achieved it at the best rate (assists per 90)

SOURCE: WHOSCORED.COM

PICTURE THIS

ROMINA AMATO/RED BULL VIA GETTY IMAGES

Flex appeal

In this photograph, competitors pose at a professional event hosted by the International Federation of BodyBuilding and Fitness (IFBB) in Melbourne recently.

Bodybuilding focuses on aesthetics not strength — this specificity distinguishes it from disciplines such as powerlifting, which also involve weight-training.

In professional bodybuilding meets, competitors appear individually and in line-ups to perform specified poses. A panel of judges ranks them on symmetry, muscularity and stage presentation, among other considerations.

The annual IFBB Mr. Olympia contest is widely recognised as the discipline's most prestigious event.

Bodybuilding is incredibly hard work. The amount of time and effort it takes to achieve results can prove dispiriting — also the gains taper off over time, which means bodybuilders often have to work even harder the longer they are in the profession.

Bodybuilding is thought to have developed in the late 19th century. German Eugen Sandow, known as the 'Father of Modern Bodybuilding', judged the first reported bodybuilding event — the 'Great Competition' — at London's Royal Albert Hall in 1901. Another judge was writer Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, the creator of Sherlock Holmes.

Professional bodybuilding in recent times, however, has been mired in controversy concerning the use of anabolic steroids and other performance-enhancing drugs.

Over 44% of women aged 15-24 in State use cloth for menstrual protection

AFSHAN YASMEEN
BENGALURU

Over 44% of women aged 15-24 in Karnataka continue to use cloth for menstrual protection, according to the recently released NFHS-5 report. This is the highest among southern States followed by Kerala and Andhra Pradesh, at 40.2% and 36.2% respectively.

In terms of overall use of a hygienic method of menstrual protection, Karnataka ranks the lowest among southern States at 84.6%. Locally made napkins, sanitary napkins, tampons and menstrual cups are considered to be hygienic methods of protection in the survey. While 69.1% use sanitary napkins, 2.9% use tampons and 0.3% menstrual cups, 21.9% use locally made napkins in Karnataka.

In Puducherry, 99.1% of women aged 15-24 years use a hygienic method of protection. Puducherry is followed by Andaman (98.8%) and Nicobar Islands (98.4%). The lowest percentage of women using a hygienic method of menstrual protection is recorded in Bihar (59%), Madhya Pradesh (61%), and Meghalaya (65%)

Overall, although 77.6% of women use a hygienic method of protection in India, 49.6% continue to use cloth. While 64.4% use sanitary napkins, 15% use locally prepared napkins; 1.7% use tampons and 0.3% use menstrual cups in India. While Uttar Pradesh (69.4%) and Assam (69.1%) have the highest percentage of women who continue to use cloth, Andaman and Nicobar Islands (8.2%) and Tamil Nadu have the lowest (12.7%).

Impact of schooling

The survey found that women with 12 or more years of schooling are more than twice as likely to be using a hygienic method compared to women with no schooling (90% versus 44%). "Women in the highest wealth quintile are almost twice as likely to use a hygienic method as women in the lowest wealth quintile (95% versus 54%). Compared to the 90% of urban women who use a hygienic method of menstrual protection, only 73% in rural areas use a hygienic method," according to the report.

Consultant obstetrician and gynaecologist Hema Divakar said menstrual hygiene is not considered a priority in India. "Attempts at educating school girls will bring about a significant change in the next decade where we can expect a larger percentage to shift to sanitary pads, or better still, menstrual cups. Whilst the distribution of free or low-cost pads by the health mission encourages the use of pads in general, we should also be paying equal or even more attention to the disposal of used pads, that adds to pollution," said Dr. Divakar, who heads the Well Woman Health Care Committee at International Federation of Gynaecology and Obstetrics (FIGO).

Manisha Singh, senior consultant (gynaecology) and sub-specialist in reproductive medicine and surgery at Fortis Hospital (Bannerghatta Road), said considering menstrual cups are the future, the government must implement programmes to provide rural women with cups and adequate information on how to use and dispose them.

Shuchi scheme

Over 19 lakh school and college girls in Karnataka are waiting for resumption of the Shuchi scheme. The menstrual hygiene project for distribution of sanitary napkins was stopped in 2020 due to lack of funds.

Dependence on components from abroad an issue

Both large corporations and micro-enterprises are dependent on import of components not available in the country

MINI TEJASWI
BENGALURU

In MSMEs, around 67% to 70% of components in automotive, engineering, textile and food processing are imported. • FILE PHOTO

India's imports have only been rising despite its collective push for Atmanirbhar Bharat, Make in India and Production Linked Incentives (PLI) schemes as imported components still constitute a significant portion of most finished products, equipment, or machines manufactured at home. Be it a large manufacturing or engineering corporation or a micro-enterprise that employs just 5 or 10 people, all are dependent on imports of components that are not available in the country.

For instance, over 6 lakh micro, small and medium enterprises in Karnataka have to import various auto components, electrical or electronic items, chemicals, machine tools, machinery, industrial dyes, wools, yarn, cables, wires, metals, sheets, paints, etc., if they want to manufacture products and fulfill their customer requirements. In MSMEs, some 67% to 70% of components in automotive, engineering, textile and food processing are imported.

Prof. Narendar Pani, an economist and Professor and Dean at the National Institute of Advanced Studies at the Indian Institute of Science Campus, Bengaluru, said the country's share of imports, as a proportion to GDP, has gone up massively. "So as imports go up we should make up with additional exports. But the fact is an increase in imports makes you dependent, the rupee becomes weak as imports have been causing inflation at home," Prof Pani said. "As imports increase at a time when demand is already sluggish, we end up with stagflation (inflation with market stagnation). Prices and costs of imports are increasing while the demand is falling."

To absorb the inflation, the country has to grow more rapidly. Although the overall inflation has been a part of liberalisation, the current sudden increase was due to an increase in oil prices, he added.

Commenting on Indian manufacturer's dependence on imports, Parasuraman T.R., immediate Past President, BCIC and President and Whole-Time Director at Toyota Industries Engine India, said to support the electric vehicle sector, companies imported a wide range of items from batteries, EV motors, electronic control units (the heart of EV vehicles), semiconductors, measuring equipment, special metals, machine tools, highly-specialised technologies etc. If you take the auto sector alone, some 20% to 50% of components are imported and in the case of luxury cars imported components could go up to 90% to 100%.

The government's recent decision to impose a 15% export duty on a range of finished steel products would make exports less attractive which in turn could bring domestic steel prices down, create buoyancy in the local market and could reduce inflation, he argued. "The government is expecting a 10% to 15% fall in steel prices. Falling steel prices will be the starting point of a great cycle and will have a cascading effect on the price of all finished products, infrastructure, logistics cost, food prices, cost of living, more money will be in the purse and will reduce inflation," Mr. Parasuraman added.

INFLATION IMPACT

Gaurav Manchanda, Founder & MD, The Organic World, a retail chain, said, "Consumption is directly related to income and affordability. With import inflation and increasing price points, consumers will naturally be drawn to lower price points, value for money offers and bargain deals."

Based on the trends over the last two years, the demand for everyday essentials continues to remain largely consistent, while when it comes to niche items; for example, clean beauty products, exotic fruits and vegetables, vegan protein powders etc the price point begins to hit customers, Mr. Manchanda observed.

Soaring container costs

An unprecedented increase in container costs after the pandemic has hurt a majority of importers in the State. "A 40 feet container, between Shanghai to Bengaluru cost anything between ₹1.5 lakh and ₹2 lakh before the pandemic. With COVID-19, container price shot up to ₹12 lakh, pushing up the landing prices and selling prices of items multiple times," explained Raju, former president Kassia, also an importer of machinery.

Mr. Raju had committed to importing of four containers of sheet metal cutting machines, sheet bending machines, and laser cutter machines for metals to his customers at a price of ₹4 lakh per container, but eventually he had to pay ₹10 lakh for each container. "I had to deliver the machinery at the committed price to my customers. Container costs went up suddenly, making the import cost higher by five times. I could not charge the customer extra, so I had to forgo my margin and also put in money from my own pocket to honour my commitments," narrated Raju. He is among many small importers in the city suffering amidst soaring logistics costs and inflationary pressures."

IISc develops device to improve data security

'This will provide protection for digital data like credit card details, passwords'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

A team at the Department of Electrical Communication Engineering (ECE), Indian Institute of Science (IISc) has developed a true random number generator (TRNG), which, the team says, can improve data encryption and provide improved security for sensitive digital data such as credit card details, passwords and other personal information.

The study describing the device has been published in the journal *ACS Nano*.

"Almost everything we do on the internet is encrypted for security. The strength of this encryption depends on the quality of random number generation," explained Nithin Abraham, a PhD student who is a part of a team led by Kausik Majumdar, Associate Professor at ECE, which has developed the device. Encrypted information can be decoded only by authorised users who have access to a cryptographic 'key'. But the key needs to be unpredictable and, therefore, randomly generated to resist hacking. Cryptographic keys are typically generated in computers using pseudorandom number generators, which rely on mathematical formulae or pre-programmed tables to produce numbers that appear random but are not. In contrast, a TRNG extracts random numbers from inherently random physical processes, making it more secure, the release stated.

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Land in the metaverse

Metaverse, an intriguing concept and an alternative investment in virtual assets, is taking digital land trading to new heights, says **DHAVAL AJMERA**

Earlier, if someone would have asked us to invest or buy a virtual platform, our primary focus would have been on video games; we would have laughed at the impracticality of the matter. However, now, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the lines between the physical and virtual realities have merged; so we can say metaverse will become the future of real estate investment.

It is a new form of real estate investment which is emerging now – digital land, a form of non-fungible tokens (NFTs), such as Decentraland, Sandbox and Somnium. Several investors, individual and institutional, are showing interest in digital real estate.

Fresh creation

Land is nothing more than a block of data produced on a blockchain and represented by an NFT of that blockchain in the metaverse. Decentraland, for example, is a metaverse based on the Ethereum blockchain. Such an investment is offered utilising NFT technology, which allows for public verification of its records, ensuring transparency.

The metaverse is an intriguing concept that has the potential to open up doors in the future. Land in the metaverse can be valuable, as demand grows every day. However, there are a limited number of land parcels available. This isn't to say that the land cannot be created; it can, if the seller organisations desire to.

One of the most lucrative markets for investing money and growing revenue is real estate. The sector has evolved substantially in recent years as a result of technological advancements, and it has only improved. The metaverse is a revolutionary new concept in real estate technology. Buying land in this virtual world is becoming a whole new real estate mania.

As investors pour millions of dollars into a never-before-seen virtual real estate market, digital land trading is reaching new heights. To prepare for the metaverse economic boom, land trading is done in the form of concrete facilities, shopping malls, and other properties in this 3D world.

The transformation and amalgamation of real-life and electronic events have significantly improved, guiding the emergence of digitally native nations.

The battle in the metaverse space is heating up, and companies globally are getting serious about it. Tech majors like Facebook, Microsoft, SoftBank and sportswear giants like Nike are already betting big on metaverse. The mostly fictional and digital world of metaverse in real estate will essentially let one own a piece of digital land, and make money by leasing it out or selling ads etc.

Simply put, metaverse is a future internet where online experiences like chatting to a friend would eventually feel face-to-face thanks to virtual reality (VR) headset.

The buzz about metaverse has been going on since months; however, interest soared last October after Facebook's parent company renamed itself Meta.

Metaverse is a kind of business sense which will stay in the real world: it's in a trendy area with high footfall. The latest hot real-estate market isn't on the scenic coasts or in balmy sunbelt cities. It's in the metaverse, where gamers are flocking and digital property sales are setting new records.

A year ago, there were hardly no brands in the metaverse. It was primarily player-driven, with a few platform-sponsored events thrown in for good measure. In the year 2021, businesses began taking first moves into the virtual world, hoping to reach out to a completely new audience. NFT-entangled objects were used to create special event platforms.

> To prepare for the metaverse economic boom, land trading is done in the form of concrete facilities, shopping malls, and other properties in this 3D world

The virtual real estate companies formed a line. As the real estate ventures constructed virtual properties, more individuals were enthralled. Based on property locations, The Sandbox and Decentraland might suddenly fetch millions of dollars. After you've figured out why you should invest in virtual real estate, you'll need to figure out how to get started.

High returns on investment are the primary motivator for owning virtual real estate. In the metaverse, a number of virtual real estate developments are in the work. The concept is similar to buying an NFT: you possess the digital asset that is kept on the blockchain, and anyone can verify its legality. If the value of your virtual land increases, you can sell it or rent it out for events.

The writer is Director, Ajmera Realty and Infra India Ltd.

A long way off

The metaverse dream is still a long way off. Real estate is for real assets; this is completely a different world of virtual. There's no assurance about how much acceptability will come in the future in terms of buying by Indians.

However, with the changing scenarios and timeline, metaverse might become an alternative investment in virtual assets. In the coming future, there are chances that Gen-Z/ millennials will park their investment, besides equity and real estate, into the virtual real estate world, which should be quite encouraging and different.

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Karnataka's infant mortality rate fell by two points in 2020

Death rate is higher among female babies and in rural areas

AFSHAN YASMEEN
BENGALURU

In a pointer to improved health indicators, Karnataka's Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) fell by two points from 21 in 2019 to 19 in 2020, according to the Sample Registration System (SRS) bulletin for 2020 released on Thursday.

IMR is defined as the infant deaths (less than one year) per thousand live births in a given time period and for a given region. The SRS taken up by the Office of the Registrar General of India is a large-scale demographic survey for providing reliable annual estimates of infant mortality rate, birth rate, death rate, and other fertility and mortality indicators at the national and regional level.

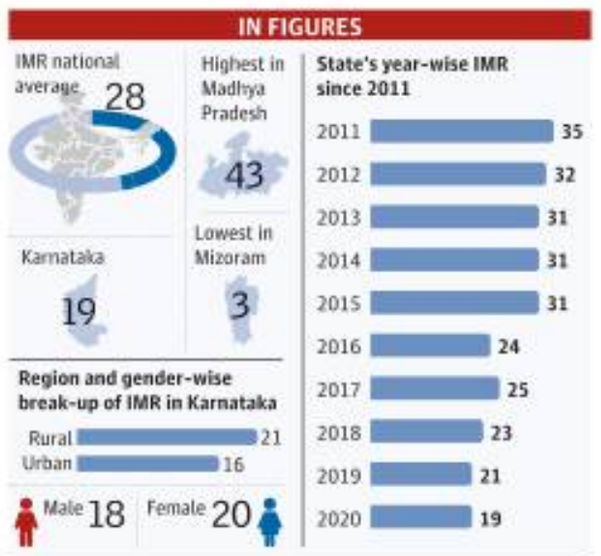
While 21 infant deaths per thousand live births were reported in rural areas in the State in 2020, it was 16 in urban areas. • FILE PHOTO

However, a matter of concern is that rural areas continue to report a higher number of infant deaths compared to urban areas. Also, the death rate is high in female babies.

While 21 infant deaths per thousand live births are reported in rural areas in the State in 2020, the rate is 16 in urban areas.

16 point fall in 10 years

Karnataka's IMR has seen a reduction of 16 points in the last decade. From as high as 35 in 2011, the State successfully brought down the IMR to 24 in 2016. Although this vital parameter again went up by one point and touched 25 in 2017, it has fallen by two points every year since then touching 19 in 2020. Karnataka's IMR is far better than the national average that stood at 28 infant deaths per thousand live births in 2020. However, this is less than one-fourth as compared to 1971 (when 129 infant deaths were reported per thousand live births) in the country.



In the last ten years, IMR in India has witnessed a decline of about 36% from 44 to 28. The corresponding decline in rural areas is 48 to 31, and for urban areas it is from 29 to 19, thereby exhibiting about 35% and 34% decline respectively at the national level. Despite the decline in IMR, one in every 36 infants die within the first year of their life at the national level (irrespective of rural or urban areas), stated the SRS bulletin.

Big achievement

State Health Commissioner Randeep D. said a two-point reduction in IMR is a big achievement for Karnataka. "As we head towards single digit IMR, the task becomes more challenging in closing the gap," he said.

Pointing out that the SRS report has not attributed any reasons for the high number of deaths in rural areas, the Commissioner said the deaths include both preventable and non-preventable. "The ultimate objective is to reach single digit IMR and halting all preventable infant deaths. We are reviewing and reporting infant deaths at district level under chairmanship of Deputy Commissioners so as to find reasons and build appropriate district specific strategies to prevent them," he said, adding that the role of Special Newborn Care Units (SNCUs) is extremely important in this regard.

Basavaraj B. Dhabadi, State Deputy Director (Child Health) said IMR is an important marker of the overall health of a society. "Overall, the State has recorded a six-point decrease in the last four years. This is a reflection of major strides Karnataka has made in the health sector. However, a further decrease is more challenging and we are working towards that," he added.

Dalit man murdered in Kalaburagi over inter-faith relationship

The police have arrested the girl's brother and his friend, both accused in the case

STAFF REPORTER
KALABURAGI

A 25-year-old Dalit youth was murdered on Wednesday for being in a relationship with a girl from another faith at Wadi in Chittapur taluk of Kalaburagi district.

After receiving a complaint from the mother of the youth, Vijaykumar Kamble, the Wadi Police registered a First Information Report under Sections 302 and 34 of the Indian Penal Code and Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989.

Rajeshwari, the grieving mother of the deceased, at their home in Wadi, Kalaburagi district, on Friday. • ARUN KULKARNI

Complaint filed

The police arrested two accused – the girl's brother, Mohammad Shahabuddin, and his friend, Nawaz, on Thursday. As per information provided by Rajeshwari, the mother of the deceased, her son had been in love with the girl for the last four years. The relationship was opposed by the brothers of the girl. Raghavendra, a friend of the slain youth, who witnessed the crime, said that the two accused attacked Kamble with a knife and an iron rod near Wadi Railway Station at around 7.30 p.m. on Wednesday. They left the place after the victim collapsed to the ground.

"We immediately called an ambulance. But, since it took a long time to arrive, we had to rush the victim to a local private hospital in a three-wheeler. He died by the time we reached the hospital," Mr. Raghavendra told *The Hindu*.

He said that the girl had called Kamble in the afternoon on Wednesday and warned him about a possible attack on him by her brother. "He [Kamble] took it lightly and he was attacked the same evening," Mr. Raghavendra said.

Kamble was working as a cook at the Wadi Railway Station guesthouse for the last five years. He has an elder sister and a younger sister, both married. His father died about 17 years ago. He was living with his mother in a two-room rented house. "My son was the breadwinner. I don't know how I will survive now," said an inconsolable Rajeshwari.

Communal colour

Sandeep Katti, a friend of Kamble, expressed unhappiness over the efforts of some organisations to give a communal colour to the murder. "Both Hindus and Muslims are living like brothers in the town. It is unfortunate that some are trying to communalise the issue," he said.

Deputy Superintendent of Police Umesh Chikkamath said that both the accused were arrested immediately after the crime.

Pratibha Prahlad's talk edited out

Only parts of the dancer's interview were uploaded on YouTube

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

Renowned dancer Pratibha Prahlad expressed shock when she saw parts of her interview-talk at the recently held 'Maneyangaladalli Matukate', organised by the Kannada and Culture Department, being edited out not only when uploaded on YouTube, but also in the copy given to her. The parts edited out are those where she spoke about her relationship with former Chief Minister Ramakrishna Hegde and her experience as a single mother.

Pratibha Prahlad • FILE PHOTO

The programme, held on May 21, had senior journalist Ramakrishna Upadhya interviewing the artist. "In the second half of the interview, we spoke about her personal life, her relationship with Mr. Hegde and being a single mother. Though these things are public knowledge, this was probably the first time she spoke openly about it on a public platform. While the full interview was initially put up by the Department on YouTube on May 22, Sunday, it was pulled down within hours and a censored version of it was uploaded," said Mr. Upadhya.

Ms. Prahlad said she had asked for a copy of the recording and the Department had even given her an edited version.

"If the government wants to, let them censor my experience and what I have spoken, but as a speaker I am entitled to the full recording of my talk," she said. Ms. Prahlad said she had recounted how she shared a deeply emotional bond with Mr. Hegde, and her interactions with him.

She also spoke about her decision to raise her twins as a single mother and how society needs to accept these choices, all of which have been edited out.

"I urge Kannada and Culture Minister Sunil Kumar to direct the Department to replace the censored version of the interview on YouTube with the full text of the interview in the interest of freedom of expression and justice to a well-known artist," said Mr. Upadhya.

N. Manjula, Secretary, Kannada and Culture Department, said she was unaware that the video of the interview was edited and would look into the matter.

'Girls in hijab will be counselled'

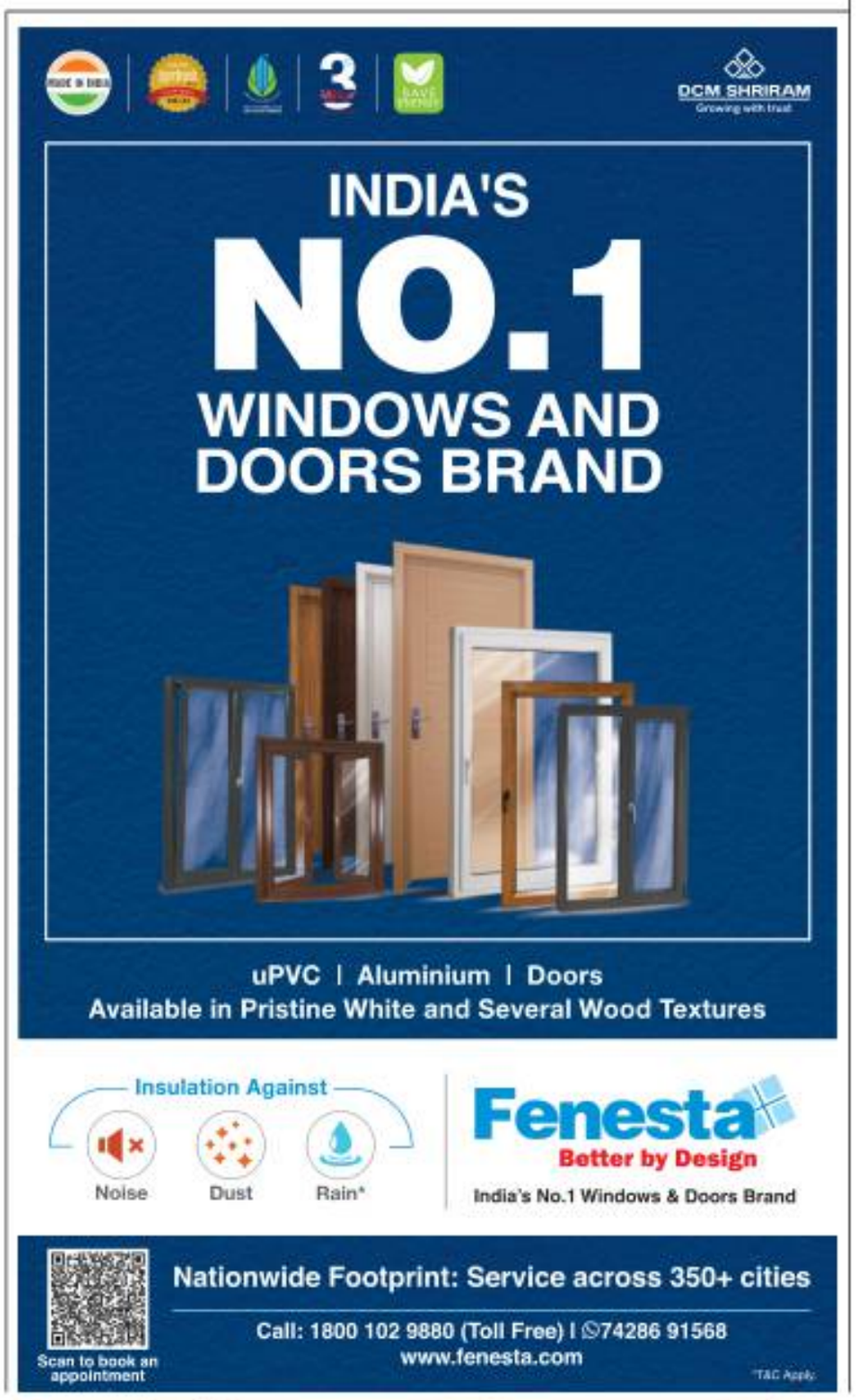
SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MANGALURU

A day after students of the University College here protested against the college allowing Muslim girls to wear hijabs in classrooms, Mangalore University said on Friday that students in hijab will be counselled and convinced of the need to return to classes without the scarf.

Speaking to mediapersons after a meeting in the college, which is owned and managed by the university, Vice-Chancellor P.S. Yadapadithaya said that the varsity would not allow students to wear hijabs in all its six constituent colleges that it owns and manages. It is as per the recent verdict of the High Court of Karnataka and the subsequent decision taken by the Syndicate, which is the highest decision-making body of the university, on May 16. The Syndicate has decided that students should not be allowed to wear scarf in classrooms of the university's constituent colleges. The verdict of the court is binding on the university and its constituent colleges, he said.

"We can bend or stretch the law. But we cannot break it," he said and added that if the students refused to attend classes even after counselling, the college would issue them transfer certificates if they wished to join any other institution.

The Vice-Chancellor said that hijab will not be allowed in library and canteen as well. Students will, after entering the college premises, have to remove the head scarf in the restroom meant for them.



State succeeded in attracting ₹60,000 cr. investment: CM

'During Davos summit, many MNCs assured us of investing in Karnataka'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai, who returned to Bengaluru on Friday after attending the World Economic Forum Meet in Davos, said Karnataka had succeeded in drawing total investments of about ₹60,000 crore in various sectors by signing agreements with multinational companies during the summit held from May 23 to 26.

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai addressing a press meet after returning from the World Economic Forum Meet held in Davos, in Bengaluru on Friday. • K. MURALI KUMAR

Invest Karnataka summit

The government has decided to hold a three-day Invest Karnataka summit from November 2 and a technology summit from November 16 to 18 in Bengaluru and both the summits would attract more investments, he said.

"Investors are happy about Karnataka's policies" and "the State has not lost and is not going to lose" drawing investment. More than 50,000 acres had been kept ready for allotment of land for investors to set up companies, Mr. Bommai said.

"Investors are showing interest largely due to the technology base of the State, availability of rich human resources, and ease of doing business policies of the government," the Chief Minister said.

During the summit, Jubilant Group, Hitachi Energy, Siemens, Ab Inbev, Dassault Systems, Nestle, ArcelorMittal, and Bharti Enterprises were among the prominent companies that have assured investments in the State in the coming days, the Chief Minister said.

Under the Beyond Bengaluru programme, the government discussed investment opportunities in Tumakuru, Hubballi-Dharwad, and Mysuru.

Companies, proposals

Jubilant Food Works has proposed to set up its new centralised kitchen and Jubilant Bioys has agreed to set up its R&D centre in Devanahalli on a 10-acre plot. Both the firms which are part of the Jubilant Group would invest ₹700 crore. Ab InBev intends to set up a non-alcoholic beverages unit in the State with an investment of ₹50 crore while Nestle is set to expand and modernise its existing instant coffee unit in Nanjangud with an investment of ₹700 crore.

Dassault Systems has evinced interest to invest in electric vehicles, modern production systems in association with CMTI, industrial training for students in digital 4.0 technology and Smart City projects with investments of ₹300 crore.

Schneider Electric plans to consolidate its facilities in Attibele to a single unit in Jigani with additional capacity for manufacturing new models of data centre UPS and energy-efficient devices with an investment of ₹300 crore. ArcelorMittal has planned to set up a solar-wind hybrid project with an investment of ₹6,000 crore, the Chief Minister said.

Bharti Enterprises has mooted a plan to set up a mega data centre in the State in addition to its existing data centres. "Apart from these, Adani Group, Dalmia Cement, Johnson Controls, Honeywell, IBM, Ikea Stores, PayPal, and Axis Bank have shown interest to invest in various sectors of the State," the Chief Minister said.

Renewable energy

ReNew Power Pvt. Ltd. has signed an MoU for an investment of ₹50,000 crore spread over the next seven years for setting up renewable energy, battery storage, and green hydrogen units with employment opportunities for about 30,000 people.

Lulu Group International has inked an MoU for investing ₹2,000 crore. While Hitachi Energy showed interest in setting up EV charging infrastructure, renewable energy, and digitalisation projects, Siemens Healthineers would be undertaking R&D in healthcare projects with an investment of ₹1,300 crore, the Chief Minister said.

'Bengaluru infrastructure works will be completed by November'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Friday said all ongoing infrastructure-related work in Bengaluru city would be completed by November end. Mr. Bommai said ₹6,000 crore had been released under the Nagarothana Scheme for executing various development and infrastructure works in the city.

"All cities get flooded during heavy rains," Mr. Bommai said and added that all drainage and road-related works would be taken up on a war footing in the coming months. Floods and other infrastructure works in the city have not dented the 'brand Bengaluru' and many investors have evinced interest to invest in the State, Mr. Bommai reiterated.

Replying to a question on other States attracting more investments, he said, "I spoke about only committed investment of ₹60,000 crore by companies. Many companies are ready to invest over ₹60,000 crore in the coming days."

HC: Suspend supply of sub-standard food through anganwadis under ICDS scheme

Ensure food conforms to nutrition and feeding norms set by Centre, govt. told

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

FROM THE COURT

The High Court of Karnataka on Friday directed the State government to immediately suspend the supply of food products that do not conform to the specification and standards of the revised nutrition and feeding norms to anganwadi centres (AWCs) through the Integrated Child Development Service (ICDS) scheme.

The court also directed the government to implement the ICDS scheme as per its own circular of July 2, 2020, May 5, 2021 notification and August 19, 2021, report of the technical expert committee, which were in conformity with guidelines issued by the apex court from time to time and the ICDS (Revised Nutritional and Feeding Norms), 2017, issued by the Central government.

A Division Bench comprising Chief Justice Ritu Raj Awasthi and Justice S.R. Krishna Kumar issued the direction while disposing of a PIL petition filed by Sangeeta Gadagin, and two petitions filed by women organisations engaged in ICDS activities.

The petitioners had questioned the legality of notifications issued on May 15 and 20, 2021 by the State government unilaterally withdrawing May 5, 2021 notification and July 2, 2020 circular, which were ensuring proper nutritional standards as per specifications.

Withdrawal of the circular and the notification "clearly indicates that the same are completely unreasoned, non-specific, cryptic, laconic and arbitrary", the court said while pointing out that withdrawal would delay in supply of nutritional food to children, and pregnant and lactating women.

The court noted that the technical expert committee set up by the State government too found it proper to implement the ICDS scheme in terms of May 5, 2021 notification, which was issued after a series of reports pointed out sub-standard food being supplied under the ICDS scheme.

This notification had mandated that Mahila Supplementary Nutrition Production Training Centers, which were tasked to supply prepare and supply nutritious food to AWCs, will have to secure the assistance of women's self-help groups that are certified or licenced by the Bureau of Indian Standards, for maintaining quality of nutritious food. Also, the court pointed out that supply of nutritional food to the beneficiaries cannot be delayed further as "condition of the beneficiaries of the ICDS scheme had substantially and considerably deteriorated and worsened on account of the COVID-19 pandemic."

DKS appeals to education experts to raise their voice against State govt.

'It is politicising the education system with its right-wing agenda'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee president D.K. Shivakumar has slammed the State BJP government for politicising the education system with its "right-wing agendas" and appealed to education experts to raise their voice against the government.

Congress leaders at a programme to mark the former Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru's death anniversary on Friday. • K. MURALI KUMAR

Mr. Shivkumar said, "Education is the basic foundation for a progressive society, but presently the BJP is politicising our education system."

The Union government was trying to change the country's history by distorting facts. The BJP was trying to impose RSS principles on children's minds, which is not acceptable, he said. He stressed that while the government was busy implementing the "Nagpur education policy", the schools were being run in dilapidated conditions. "The mid-day meal project has already failed, and schools are being run with no proper infrastructure," he said.

Noting that academicians were protesting against the BJP's attempt to revise textbooks, the KPCC chief appealed to all educational experts, writers, academicians, and think tanks to raise their voice against the government's attempt to "saffronise" the education system.

CLP leader Siddaramaiah, Mr. Shivakumar, the former Union Minister Jairam Ramesh, and other leaders on Friday participated in the death anniversary of the former Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru and paid floral tributes.

HDK: Communal BJP is real enemy of people and not 'family-run parties'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Janata Dal (Secular) leader and former Chief Minister, in a series of tweets, has hit out at Prime Minister Narendra Modi for his comments on "family-run" political parties being the "biggest enemies to the country and youth" and said that in reality, it is the "communal BJP" that is the enemy of the people.

"There is no threat from family-centric politics for the country. The threat is from the communal BJP. Raking up emotional issues among people and capturing power is democracy's biggest enemy; detrimental to the Constitution. I do not think that Modiji doesn't know this," he said.

He further said that criticising family-run parties was just an excuse. "The Prime Minister's main goal is to root-out regional political parties. After the Congress' rout in many States, the principal Opposition parties for the BJP are regional parties," he said.

Speaking about 'Operation Kamala' that brought the BJP to power, he asked, "They [BJP] purchased MLAs like people buy cattle in a weekly shandy! Does the Prime Minister deny this?... Is it untrue that Prime Minister gave official endorsement of this immoral government?"

Applicants aplenty

Queuing up: A large number of job aspirants waiting to submit applications for various posts in the State Legislative Assembly Secretariat, on the last day for the process, at the Vidhana Soudha in Bengaluru on Friday. • K. MURALI KUMAR

Seven elected to Council unopposed

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

All the seven candidates of the three major political parties have been declared elected unopposed in the biennial elections held to the Karnataka Legislative Council from the Legislative Assembly constituency.

Candidates declared elected unopposed are Laxman Savadi, Hemalatha Nayak, S. Keshav Prasad, Chalavadi Narayanaswamy (all BJP), M. Nagaraju Yadav and K. Abdul Jabbar (Congress), and T.A. Sharavana (JD-S).

M.K. Vishalakshi, Returning Officer for the elections and Secretary, Karnataka Legislative Assembly, declared the results. The elections were necessitated as the term of office of seven members expires on June 14.

State-level Chintan Shivir of Congress on June 2, 3

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee will hold the State-level Chintan Shivir in Bengaluru on June 2 and 3, on the lines of the national-level shivir held in Udaipur, Rajasthan, a few days ago. Earlier, it was scheduled for June 1 and 2.

The Chintan Shivir would be held at Clarks Exotica, Convention Resorts, Devanahalli Road. All MLAs, MLCs, MPs, DCC presidents, and KPCC office-bearers and office-bearers of various cells have been told to be present in Bengaluru on June 1 to collect passes from the KPCC office.

Congress issues show-cause notice to Kavitha Reddy

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

KPCC Disciplinary Action Committee chairman K. Rahman Khan has issued a show-cause notice to KPCC general secretary Kavitha Reddy seeking her explanation for remarks against the party over selection of candidates for the Legislative Council elections.

She alleged "injustice" towards women by the party while picking candidates. Ms. Reddy and several other women Congress leaders were ticket aspirants.

Mr. Khan asked Ms. Reddy to reply within seven days from receipt of the notice. Otherwise, the party would take further disciplinary action, he said.

Conference focuses on knowledge sharing

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

A regional conference of Cluster Based Business Organisations (CBBOs) and Farmers' Producer Organisations (FPOs) under the Central Sector Scheme of 'Formation & Promotion of 10,000 FPOs' was organised in Bengaluru on Friday by the State's Watershed Department.

The conference was attended by Union Ministers of State for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Kailash Choudhary and Shobha Karandlaje. The main intention was to facilitate knowledge sharing among CBBOs on best practices and provide a platform for discussion on expectations from CBBOs.

Transport subsidy

Karnataka's Agriculture Minister B.C. Patil appealed to the Centre to envisage a special transport subsidy for exporting the produce of FPOs to various countries as the cost of international transport is very high. "This would go a long way in promoting export of agricultural commodities by the FPOs," he said.

The Central scheme has a total budget outlay of ₹6,865.00 crore. It envisages hand-holding and financial support to the FPOs for five years.

The main intention behind forming FPOs was to bring farmers together so that small farmers will get collective strength to access quality input, credit, and market due to increased scale of operations.

More than 6.92 lakh farmers have been mobilised under the scheme while 3.13 lakh farmers have been registered as shareholders of the FPOs with an equity contribution of ₹42.66 crore.

While 227 woman-focused FPOs have been registered, 525 FPOs have been set up in tribal districts.

State Secretariat employees strike work

- They are opposing administrative reforms
- Posting of officials from different departments to the Secretariat on deputation opposed

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

A large number of State Secretariat employees went on a strike on Friday opposing administrative reforms and posting of officials from different departments to the Secretariat on deputation.

Many permanent employees working at the Vidhana Soudha, the Vikas Soudha, and the MS Buildings did not attend offices following a call by the Karnataka State Secretariat Employees' Association.

Only temporary and contract staff were found working in offices at the Vidhana Soudha. Many offices remained shut on the third floor of the Secretariat.

The association has been opposing a reforms report submitted by retired Chief Secretary T.M. Vijayabhaskar and another report on pay commission by retired IAS officer M.R. Srinivas Murthy. The reports mainly recommend job cuts, especially of the junior assistant posts in various departments.

Chief Secretary P. Ravi Kumar on Thursday warned that criminal cases would be filed against those who prevent employees/officers from attending the office in the State Secretariat. Association president P. Guruswamy said the strike was not against the government but to draw the attention of Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai to their problems.

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer-6, (Lakes)
3rd Floor, Annex-3 Building, N.R. Square, Bengaluru-560 002.

No:EE-6/Lakes/Tend/01/2022-23 Date: 27.05.2022

INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT)
(Through GOK e-Procurement Portal only)

The Executive Engineer-6 (Lakes), BBMP, Bengaluru invites Tenders from eligible Tenderers for the works detailed in the table below.

Sl. No.	Name of the Works	Approx. Value of Work (₹. in Lakhs)	EMD (in ₹.)
1	Demolition and providing Chain Link fencing to encroachment removed portion of lakes boundary in Yalahanka Zone.	40.00	80,000/-
2	Construction of Silt Trap road culvert at Amruthalli Lake Side inlet of Rachenahalli Lake.	25.00	50,000/-

Calendar of Events : (1) Tender documents available from **30.05.2022.** (2) Tenders must be submitted online on or before **14.06.2022** at **4:00** pm. (3) Bids will be opened on **15.06.2022** at **4:30** pm (If Possible). Further details may be obtained from the above office during office hours on working days or from website: **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/-
Executive Engineer-6, Lakes

STAY PROTECTED FROM COVID-19, NO CARELESSNESS UNTIL THERE IS A CURE.

Wear Mask | 6 Feet Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

17th ANNIVERSARY

04.12.1922 Manikudy 28.05.2005

Shri M.V. KRISHNAMOORTHY IYER

EVER LOVING FAMILY MEMBERS

MANIKUDY VILLAGE
KUMBAKONAM

IN BRIEF

Oust Jagan govt., Naidu tells cadre at conclave

ONGOLE

The TDP's annual conclave, Mahanadu, began at Manduvaripalem village near here in Andhra Pradesh on Friday with a call by its national president N. Chandrababu Naidu to "get rid of the anti-people Jagan Mohan Reddy government as and when elections are held." Mr. Naidu set the tone for a delegates' session by giving the party cadre the slogan, "Quit Jagan, save Andhra Pradesh." The TDP should return to power to save the "debt-ridden State", he said.

Monsoon onset over Kerala delayed

IMD says it is likely to take 'two to three days more'

JACOB KOSHY
NEW DELHI

Monsoon has missed its May 27 date with Kerala, with the India Meteorological Department (IMD) saying that it will likely take "2-3 days more" for the onset.

On May 13, the IMD announced that monsoon was to arrive on May 27, four days ahead of its normal date of June 1and making it the earliest monsoon onset in 13 years over Kerala.

Friday's forecast said the monsoon system had further advanced into parts of the South Arabian Sea, Maldives and parts of Lakshadweep as well as the Comorin area.

Westerly winds had strengthened in the lower levels over the south Arabian Sea and there was an increase in cloudiness over the Kerala coast and adjoining southeast Arabian Sea, the IMD update stated.

Late arrival: Last year too, the monsoon had been forecast to arrive by May 31 but officially it landed on June 3. • FILE PHOTO

Three key criteria

For the IMD to declare the onset over Kerala, three key criteria must be met: one, the rain-bearing westerlies have to be at a minimum depth and speed; two, at least 60% of the available 14 stations in Kerala and coastal Karnataka, namely Minicoy, Amini, Thiruvananthapuram, Punalur, Kollam, Allapuzha, Kottayam, Kochi, Thrissur, Kozhikode, Thalassery, Kannur, Kudulu and Mangalore, must be reporting rainfall of 2.5 mm or more for two consecutive days after May 10; and, finally, a certain degree of clouding, indicated by a parameter called outgoing long-wave radiation being below 200 W/square metre.

IMD Director General M. Mohapatra told *The Hindu* that all criteria had been met except the stations criteria. "As of today, 50% of the stations have received required rain. It is quite possible that this may be met tomorrow of day after."

Other agencies suggest that the monsoon's advent will likely be a weak onset, meaning that the monsoon may be stalled over the Kerala and Karnataka coast for the first few days of June instead of travelling northwards onto Maharashtra.

MJO phenomenon

A phenomenon called the Madden-Julian Oscillation (MJO) – a tropical wave that travels around the equator every 30-40 days – influences precipitation patterns in India as well. The current MJO signal (active phase) that lies over the Indian Ocean could trigger the onset of monsoon over Kerala by May 27. However, the MJO could enter an "inactive phase" by May-end and favour a slow progress of monsoon. "Therefore, amidst the prevailing weak La Niña conditions, there is a chance that the onset and subsequent progress of monsoon over Kerala and Karnataka can be delayed to the first week of June," according to an analysis by The Weather Company, a firm that tracks monsoon patterns.

Last year too, the monsoon had been forecast to arrive by May 31 but officially it landed on June 3 after which the progress was slow.

The IMD uses a specialised weather model to forecast the monsoon onset over Kerala and the forecast date has a built-in four day margin of error. Except for 2015, the monsoon has arrived within the four-day window of the date forecast by the IMD from 2005-2021, the agency said in a press statement.

It has forecast the June-September monsoon to be normal with rainfall likely to be 99% of the historical normal.

WEATHER WATCH

RAINFALL, TEMPERATURE & AIR QUALITY IN SELECT METROS YESTERDAY

TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Saturday: Heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Assam and Meghalaya. Thunderstorm with lightning likely at isolated places over Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Gangetic West Bengal, Chhattisgarh, Telangana, coastal Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Karaikal, Kerala and Lakshadweep

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	17	31.1	24.0	Kozhikode	15	31.8	25.2
Ahmedabad	–	41.3	28.0	Kurnool	–	38.4	27.0
Aizawl	21	27.5	20.2	Lucknow	–	38.6	26.6
Allahabad	–	40.3	27.0	Madurai	–	37.5	24.8
Bengaluru	–	31.0	21.6	Mangaluru	–	31.5	25.2
Bhopal	–	40.2	27.2	Mumbai	–	34.4	29.0
Bhubaneswar	–	37.9	26.6	Mysuru	–	34.0	21.0
Chandigarh	–	39.5	25.6	New Delhi	–	39.3	25.5
Chennai	–	38.4	28.6	Patna	–	39.2	23.4
Coimbatore	–	34.0	23.6	Port Blair	3	30.6	25.4
Dehradun	1	34.6	21.1	Puducherry	45.2	37.2	22.0
Gangtok	2.2	21.3	14.1	Pune	–	35.9	23.5
Goa	2	33.5	25.7	Raipur	13	40.1	25.2
Guwahati	–	33.0	25.4	Ranchi	2	36.8	21.3
Hubballi	–	32.0	22.0	Shillong	–	24.4	15.9
Hyderabad	1.1	38.0	25.6	Shimla	–	28.3	19.2
Imphal	–	29.8	20.4	Srinagar	–	29.2	13.6
Jaipur	–	40.3	29.2	Thiruvananthapuram	–	32.0	24.0
Kochi	–	30.4	25.2	Tiruchi	0.6	38.5	27.0
Kohima	2	24.4	15.8	Vijayawada	–	39.2	28.6
Kolkata	–	37.0	26.5	Visakhapatnam	0.8	31.6	24.6

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	11	12	–	167	130	Moderate
Bengaluru	27	–	46	88	79	Good
Chennai	18	19	66	48	59	Good
Delhi	12	46	32	303	258	Poor
Hyderabad	27	37	81	74	123	Moderate
Kolkata	18	59	26	111	118	Moderate
Lucknow	5	87	52	177	154	Moderate
Mumbai	7	19	72	63	73	Good
Pune	34	17	114	110	79	Moderate
Visakhapatnam	15	50	20	79	109	Moderate

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Muzaffarnagar, Uttar Pradesh recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 278 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Gangtok, Sikkim recorded a healthy AQI score of 31

Air Quality Code: Poor, Moderate, Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

Kishan ready for debate with KCR on Central aid

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD

Union Minister for Tourism, Culture and development of northeast region G. Kishan Reddy, on Friday, once again offered to have a "public debate" with Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao on the Centre's financial assistance to Telangana State in the last eight years.

"Every sphere of development or welfare activities being taken up here is because of funding by the Centre. Can the TRS government tell people about how much money has been allotted to the gram panchayats as against the Centre's release of funds?," he questioned, at a press conference held at the party office on Friday.

Mr. Reddy, also Secunderabad MP, asserted that in the subsidised free rice of five kilos being issues since the COVID pandemic broke out in 2020, the Centre bears ₹28 as subsidy and the State government just ₹2. The 'basti dawakhanas' are coming up with Centre's funds, the irrigation project of TRS at Kaleshwaram is funded by the Centre," he claimed.

Experimental cinema wins big in Kerala

Avasavyooham bags the Best Film and Best Original Screenplay awards

S.R. PRAVEEN
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Experimental cinema held the centre stage at the 52nd Kerala State Film Awards, which were declared here on Friday, with debutant Krishand R.K. scooping up the award for the Best Film and Best Original Screenplay for his film *Avasavyooham*, which raised questions on development and environmental concerns through a protagonist who transforms into a frog.

Winners all: Revathi wins the Award for the Best Actor (Female); while Joju George and Biju Menon share the Best Actor (Male) award.

Krishnendu Kalesh won the award for Best Debut Director for his film *Prappeda* (Hawk's Muffin), a wildly experimental film which eludes classification and exists free of genre boundaries, highlighting issues related to war, plunder of land and oppressive controls by dictatorial minds.

Dileesh Pothan won the award for the Best Director for *Joji*, a perceptive study of the slow unravelling of a criminal mind. Syam Pushkaran won the award for the Best Adapted Screenplay for *Joji*'s script based on Shakespeare's *Macbeth*.

Revathi won the Award for the Best Actor (Female) for her portrayal of a mother battling depression and struggling to understand her son who is also having mental health issues in *Bhoothakalam*.

The Best Actor (Male) award was shared between Biju Menon, who aced the role of a 73-year-old, making us feel the weight of the age in his demeanor and voice in *Aarkkariyam*, and Joju George, for a range of performances in *Nayattu*, *Madhuram*, *Thuramukham* and *Freedom Fight*.

Sumesh Moor's power-packed performance of a marginalised man's fight-back against an oppressor in *Kala* won him the award for the Best Character Actor (Male), while Unnimaya Prasad's performance in *Joji* won her the Best Character Actor (Female) award.

Nishiddho, directed by Tara Ramanujam, one of the two movies produced last year under the Kerala State Film Development Corporation's project to promote women filmmakers, shared the award for the Second Best Film with *Chavittu*, directed by Rahman Brothers.

Sheer variety

Screenwriter and filmmaker Saeed Akhtar Mirza, who headed the jury, said the jury was amazed by the sheer variety of themes and subjects being tackled in Malayalam cinema.

Book case against rally organisers: HC

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
KOCHI

The organisers of the Popular Front of India (PFI) rally in Alappuzha in which communally volatile slogans were raised shall be implicated as accused in the case and the police should investigate the matter, the Kerala High Court has directed. Justice P.V. Kunjikrishnan issued the order on Friday on a petition filed by R. Ramaraja Varma.

The court said if a member of a rally raised provocative slogans, the persons who organised the rally would also be responsible.

Former Kerala MLA released on bail

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
KOCHI

Former Kerala legislator P.C. George, who was arrested on charges of making communally inflammatory speeches, was released on bail on Friday. Releasing Mr. George, Justice P.S. Gopinath noted that the offences registered against the petitioner were punishable with a maximum imprisonment up to three years or fine and his continued detention may not be necessary. The fact that Mr. George was a 72-year-old man stated to be suffering from various illness and he was a member of the Kerala Legislative Assembly for nearly 33 years also compelled the judge to take the view that he was unlikely to flee from justice.

Two from Odisha arrested for rape and murder of woman in T.N.

L. SRIKRISHNA
RAMESWARAM

Two workers hailing from Odisha, who were employed in a prawn unit at Rameswaram, were arrested on Friday in connection with the rape and murder of a 45-year-old woman, whose partially burnt body was found on Tuesday.

The police had initially detained six suspects, all migrant workers, who were beaten by a mob following the death of the woman, who had gone to collect seaweeds and deliver them at the prawn unit. During interrogation, two of them confessed to having raped and killed the victim.

Police sources said the accused were likely to be produced before the jurisdictional judicial magistrate and remanded in custody.

According to reliable sources, the autopsy of the body revealed bleeding injuries and there were strangulation marks around the neck. Sources said the police brought the two accused persons to the crime scene to reconstruct the incident.

Action against fake video demanded

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The Left Democratic Women's Front (LDWF) on Friday called for stern action against those responsible for creating and circulating the fake video on Jo Joseph, the LDF candidate for the upcoming Thrikkakara by-poll in Kerala.

CPI(M) leaders P.K. Sreemathy and C.S. Sujatha, addressing a press conference of the LDWF on Friday, demanded that the United Democratic Front (UDF) and BJP leaders who circulated the video tender a public apology. The video was circulated with a clear political motive, they alleged.

Extending support to the family of Dr. Joseph, they said such heinous acts affect women and children in a family the most.

The video was deliberately circulated to tarnish Dr. Joseph, who is a respected cardiologist, Ms. Sreemathi said.

THE DHARMAPURI DIST. CO-OP MILK PRODUCERS UNION LTD.,
Dharmapuri.
TENDER NOTICE

Sealed Tenders (Two cover system) are invited from the Lorry owners for transporting of milk from **Rural Milk Co-operative Societies** to **Bulk Milk Cooling** centers of **Dharmapuri District** and Local sales milk transport in **Hogenakkal Route.**

Transportation of milk from Rural Milk Co-operative Societies to Bulk Milk Cooling centers of Dharmapuri District - **38 Mini Lorries (with Tarpallin Closed)** and Local sales milk transport in Hogenakkal Route Local Sales milk **(1 Puff van)**. Tender period for the year 2022-2025 (from the date of issue of order for three years) and cost of tender form is Rs. 200/- (inclusive of tax). Tender forms can be received from this office during the office hours upto **28.06.2022 by 04.00 PM** at **the Administrative Office, Dharmapuri Dist. Co-op Milk producers Union Ltd., Dharmapuri, Phone Number : 9487332679.** Last date for submission of filled in tender forms up to **29.06.2022 by 02.00 PM** and the same will be opened before the tender committee. Tender forms and other details can also be downloaded at **https://tntenders.gov.in/** on free of cost.

GENERAL MANAGER

DIPR/2540/TENDER/2022

CHENNAI METROPOLITAN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER-I, CONSTRUCTION WING, FIRST FLOOR, 'A' BLOCK, 'E' ROAD, KOYAMBEDU, CHENNAI - 600 107

E- TENDER NOTICE , Dt.26.05.2022

E-tenders are invited by the Superintending Engineer-I, Construction Wing, CMDA, Koyambedu, Chennai – 107, from the Registered/reputed consultancy firms under Two cover system for the work of Appointment of Consultant for the Consultancy Services for **"Preparation of Detailed Feasibility Report for Modernization of Iron & Steel Market Complex (I&SM) at Sathangadu"**.

Tender Notice No.	2/2022-23 dt.26.05.2022
Last date & Time of receipt of E-tenders	29.06.2022 upto 3.00 pm
Downloading the tender document by free of cost	27.05.2022 to 29.06.2022 upto 3.00 pm
For further details visit website	http://tntenders.gov.in

DIPR/2539/Tender/2022

Superintending Engineer-I
CW.CMDA,Ch.-107

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN:U40109KA1999SGC025521)

No: EEE/MWD/SMG/21-22/832 Dt: 23.05.2022

NOTIFICATION

The Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited have formulated a scheme under section 67 of the Electricity supply Act 2003 and the same is herewith published in pursuance of section 67(2)(C) of the said act for information to the public. Particulars of the scheme are as follows.

1) APPROXIMATE PROJECT COST:- **2330.98 Lakhs.**

2) Name of the Work:-

- Construction of 3 Nos. of 66KV terminal bay at existing 66/11KV Santhekadur sub-station in Shivamogga Taluk & District.
- Conversion of portion of 66KV Bhadra lines-1 & 2 to 66KV 630 Sq.mm XLPE UG cable for route length of 2.446Km in Shivamogga Taluk & District.
- Reduction of height of 220KV DC Shivamogga-Mysuru lines-1 & 2 to 11.5m at T.No.26 using special tower (to be designed) in the premises of proposed Shivamogga Airport at Sogane village in Shivamogga Taluk & District.

3) Approximate Length of 66KV UG Cable Line :-2.446Kms

4) Proposed 66KV Line Passing through areas:-

DISTRICT	TALUK	Hobli	Village	Survey No.
Shivamogga	Shivamogga	Nidige	Sogane	31 & 120

KPTCL shall have and exercise all powers which the telegraph authorities possess under part III of the Indian Telegraphs Act 1885(13 of 1885) for implementation of the above said scheme. Any objections or discrepancies regarding the above schemes shall be sent to the office of the undersigned. within 30 days from the date of publication of this notification for KPTCLs pursuance.

Sd/- Executive Engineer(Ele),
Major works Division, KPTCL, Near Railway Station , Balraj Urs Road, Shivamogga-577201.

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಪಂಚಾಯತ ಯಾದಗಿರಿ
ಉಪ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರ ಕಛೇರಿ ಸಮಾಜ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ
'ಸಿ' ಬ್ಲಾಕ್, ಕೊಠಡಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಸಿ-1, 2ನೇ ಮಹಡಿ, ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆಡಳಿತ ಭವನ, ಯಾದಗಿರಿ
ದೂ. 08473-200741, E-mail : dswoyadgiri@gmail.com

ಸಂ: ಉನಿಸಕಇಯಾ/ಟೆಂಡರ್/ಸಿಆರ್– /2022-23 ದಿನಾಂಕ : 20-05-2022

:: ಅಲ್ಪಾ ಅವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ::

2022-23ನೇ ಸಾಲಿಗೆ ಯಾದಗಿರಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸಮಾಜ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ ವತಿಯಿಂದ ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸುತ್ತಿರುವ ಕಛೇರಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಮತ್ತು ವಸತಿ ನಿಲಯಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಖಾಲಿ ಇರುವ ಗ್ರೂಪ್ – "ಸಿ" ಮತ್ತು ಗ್ರೂಪ್– "ಡಿ" ವೃಂದದ ಹುದ್ದೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಮಾನವ ಸೇವೆಯನ್ನು ಹೊರಸಂಪನ್ಮೂಲದ ಏಜೆನ್ಸಿಯ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಪಡೆಯುವ ಬಗ್ಗೆ.
1) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಮತ್ತು ದಿನಾಂಕ : DSWO/ACC/CR/2022-23 Date : 20-05-2022, 2) ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಿಟ್ಟ ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ : **ರೂ. 349.82 ಲಕ್ಷ**, 3) ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾವತಿಸಬೇಕಾದ ಇ.ಎಮ್.ಡಿ. ಮೊತ್ತ : **5.24 ಲಕ್ಷ**, 4) e-portal ಟೆಂಡರ್ ದಸ್ತಾವೇಜುಗಳನ್ನು ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾದ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 21-05-2022 ರಿಂದ, 5) e-portal ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಲಕೋಟೆಗಳನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಅಂತಿಮ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ : **20-06-2022 ರಂದು ಸಂಜೆ 4.30 ಗಂಟೆಯೊಳಗೆ**, 6) e-portal ಟೆಂಡರ್ ದಾಖಲಾತಿಗಳನ್ನು & ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಲಕೋಟೆಗಳನ್ನು ತೆರೆದು ಪರಿಶೀಲಿಸುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ & ಸಮಯ : **ಉಪ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರ ಕಛೇರಿ ಸಮಾಜ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ ಯಾದಗಿರಿ ದಿನಾಂಕ 21-06-2022** (ಸ್ಥಳ & ದಿನಾಂಕ ಬದಲಾವಣೆಗೆ ಒಳಪಟ್ಟಿರುತ್ತದೆ). 7) e-portal ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಲಕೋಟೆಗಳನ್ನು ತೆರೆದು ಪರಿಶೀಲಿಸುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ & ಸಮಯ : **24-06-2022 ಬೆಳಗ್ಗೆ 11.00 ಗಂಟೆ** (ದಿನಾಂಕ ಬದಲಾವಣೆಗೆ ಒಳಪಟ್ಟಿರುತ್ತದೆ), 8) ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬೇಕಾದ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ ಹಾಗೂ ವಿಳಾಸ ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : **ಉಪ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರ ಕಛೇರಿ ಸಮಾಜ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ**, "ಸಿ" ಬ್ಲಾಕ್ 2ನೇ ಮಹಡಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಡಳಿತ ಭವನ ಯಾದಗಿರಿ ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ 08473-200741 e-mail : dswoyadgiri@gmail.com

ಸಹಿ/- ಉಪ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು
ಸಮಾಜ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಯಾದಗಿರಿ

ವಾ.ಸಾ.ಸಂ.ಇ/ಯಾದಗಿರಿ/68/ಎಂಸಿಎ/2022-23

KARNATAKA STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
No.49, "Parisara Bhavana", 1st to 5th Floor, Church Street, Bengaluru - 560 001. Karnataka State. INDIA.
Ph: 25581383, 25589112, 25589113 Fax: 080-25586321
E-mail : ho@kspcb.gov.in Website : https://kspcb.karnataka.gov.in

NO: PCB/102/SEO/MINES/EPH/2022-23/1484 Date: 26-05-2022

ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEARING NOTIFICATION

The Hutti Gold Mines Company Limited has proposed to undertake Quarrying of Ordinary Sand at Chandapura Sand Block of capacity 1,32,418 TPA over an area of 30.00 acres located in Tungabhadra River Bed at Sy. Nos. 2(P) Gramathana & 47 Chandapura of Gramathana, Chandapura Village, Ranebennur Taluk, Haveri District. The project proponent has to obtain Environmental Clearance from SEIAA, Government of Karnataka, as per the EIA Notification dated 14.09.2006 (as amended on 01.12.2009), and is required to go through Environmental Public Hearing. As per the SEIAA, Government of Karnataka, Terms of Reference letter (ToR) No. SEIAA 433 MIN 2021 dated: 06.12.2021 and request of the project proponent letter received dated 01.02.2022; the Environmental Public Hearing is being conducted by the Board.

The details of the project are as follows:

1. **Name of the Company & Address: The Hutti Gold Mines Company Limited, 3rd Floor, KHB Shopping Complex, National Games Village, Koramangala, Bangalore- 560047.**
2. Location of Proposed Quarry: **Sy.Nos. 2(P) Gramathana & 47 Chandapura of Gramathana & Chandapura Village, Ranebennur Taluk, Haveri District, Karnataka.**
3. Details of proposed activity: **Quarrying of Ordinary Sand of capacity 1,32,418 TPA**
4. **Pollution Control Measures proposed:** Chemical Toilet will be provided for the disposal of domestic waste water generated from quarry office. Rainwater collected during the rainy season in the mine will be used for dust suppression and plantation. Regular sprinkling of water on haul and access roads. Regular maintenance of all equipment to minimize particulate matter and gaseous emissions from diesel engines. Plantation of thick greenbelt is provided around lease area boundary.
5. Date, time and venue of environmental public hearing: **27.06.2022 (Monday) at 12.00 noon Sy.Nos. 2(P) Gramathana & 47 Chandapura of Gramathana & Chandapura Village, Ranebennur Taluk, Haveri District.**
6. **Places of availability of project documents as per EIA Notification, kept open to public are:** (a) Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Haveri District, Haveri. (b) Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Panchayat, Haveri. (c) District Industries Centre, Haveri. (d) Taluk Panchayath, Ranebennur. (e) Village Panchayath Office, Chikkakuravatti. (f) Regional Office, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, Haveri. (g) SEIAA, Government of Karnataka, Room No. 706, 7th Floor, 4th Gate, MS Building, Bengaluru–560 001. (h) **HELP DESK,** Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, Ground Floor, No.49, Parisara Bhavan, Church Street, Bengaluru – 560 001.

NOTE: Suggestions, views, comments and objections of interested bonafide residents, environmental groups and others located at project site and likely to be affected by the proposed project are invited within 30 days from the date of publication of this Notification. They can also make oral/written/E-Mail suggestions to the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board/Chairman, Environmental Public Hearing Committee (Deputy Commissioner, Haveri District, Haveri). Interested public can participate in the Public Hearing at the above place. **For details please visit our Website: kspcb.karnataka.gov.in.**

Sd/-
Member Secretary

"AVOID USE OF PLASTICS - BE 'ECO' FRIENDLY"

Conviction and repression

There is a risk of inflamed separatist passions in Kashmir following Yasin Malik's conviction

After pleading guilty to all charges related to a terror funding case, including those under the stringent Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA), it was inevitable that separatist leader Yasin Malik, chairman of the Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front, would be sentenced to life imprisonment as he was by an NIA court. Malik's chequered past includes serious charges of being involved in the killing of Indian Air Force officers in 1990. It is another matter if Malik, who claims to have abjured violence and has been part of several parleys with the Indian government in peace talks since the mid-1990s, was pleading guilty to all charges in order to make a political statement and to inflame passions to get support for the flagging separatist leadership in the Kashmir Valley. Nevertheless, with the Union Government adopting a hard line since 2019 in dealing with the separatist movement, it was a foregone conclusion that the charges against Malik would have been doggedly pursued. Among the separatists, the JKLF remains an outfit committed to the independence of Kashmir, including parts of Pakistan-occupied Kashmir, placing it on a confrontationist course with the Indian government, notwithstanding Malik's claims of giving up violence as a means. The initial reaction in the Valley to Malik's conviction was an uptick in violence and protests even as security clampdowns were put in place to prevent any further upsurge. Malik's arrest and conviction, the ongoing house arrest of Mirwaiz Umar Farooq and the death of hardliner Syed Ali Shah Geelani suggest that the political face of separatism has been neutralised in the valley.

Yet, this does not mean that the voices of separatism in the Valley have been silenced. Militant incidents with law enforcement, security personnel and even Kashmiri Pandits as targets have continued to rage on, and the absence of the political leadership is expected to give way to more militancy. This is a situation that should not be taken lightly. With the mainstream Kashmir polity also nursing a grievance of alienation over the Indian government's decisions to do away with the special status for Jammu and Kashmir, its bifurcation into two Union Territories and loss of statehood, besides the ham-handed approach to achieve a politically suitable delimitation of electoral constituencies, the situation in the Valley threatens to return to what prevailed during the violent 1990s. It is possible that Yasin Malik's conviction, even if obtained through the judicial process, will be seen in the Valley as an extension of the political repression that has been unleashed since 2019, and militant groups will definitely seek to portray it that way. It is up to the Union Government to resuscitate confidence-building measures in the Union Territory. A return to statehood and a re-activation of the democratic political process is a much-needed imperative.

Sex as work

Laws should free consenting sex workers from stigma, and grant them rights

A long-standing demand of sex workers that their work be decriminalised has been partially fulfilled with the Supreme Court passing an order on May 19 that adult sex workers are entitled to dignity and equal protection under law. Directing the police to respect the rights of consenting sex workers, the Court observed that "... notwithstanding the profession, every individual ... has a right to a dignified life under Article 21 of the Constitution". It reiterated what the Court had ruled in *Budhadev Karmaskar* (2011), that sex workers are also entitled to a "life of dignity". With the Trafficking of Persons (Prevention, Protection and Rehabilitation) Bill yet to see the light of day, the Court invoked powers under Article 142 to issue guidelines till the legislation is in force. In 2011, it had set up a panel to look at prevention of trafficking; rehabilitation; and conditions conducive for sex workers who wish to continue work. As the Court awaits the Government's response to the panel's recommendations that adult sex workers should not be "arrested or penalised or harassed or victimised," a three-judge Bench led by Justice L. Nageswara Rao did well to direct the police to treat "all sex workers with dignity and should not abuse them, ... verbally and physically, subject them to violence or coerce them into any sexual activity". During the hearings, the Additional Solicitor General Jayant Sud had conveyed to the Court that the Government has "certain reservations" on some of the panel's recommendations.

The Court has asked the Government to respond to the panel's suggestions in six weeks. By holding that basic protection of human decency and dignity extends to sex workers and their children, the Court has struck a blow for the rights of an exploited, vulnerable section. Coming down heavily on the brutal and violent "attitude" of the police toward sex workers, the Court said "it is as if they are a class whose rights are not recognised". It has asked State governments to do a survey of protective homes under the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, the legislation governing sex work in India, to review the cases of "adult women" detained there and process their release in a time-bound manner. The ITP Act penalises acts such as running a brothel, soliciting in a public place, living off the earnings of a sex worker and living with or habitually being in the company of one. The Court's general observations should help sensitise the police, media and society toward sex workers, who have generally been invisible and voiceless. The ball is in the Government's court to draw up appropriate legislation to free consenting sex workers from stigma, and grant them workers' rights. In that too, the Court suggested the Centre and States involve sex workers or their representatives to reform laws.

Doing no justice to a vision of democracy

The existing economic system pursued by the political parties is antagonistic to the model envisioned by B.R. Ambedkar

C. LAKSHMANAN AND APARAJAY

Across the globe, like never before, Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar's 131st birthday (April 14) was celebrated in diverse forms. To honour him and other anti-caste icons such as Jyotirao Phule, Canada's British Columbia province has declared April as 'Dalit History Month'. In the federal State of Colorado and Michigan in the United States it is 'Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Equity Day'. In India, the Government of India has directed public institutions to formally celebrate Ambedkar's birthday. The Uttar Pradesh government celebrated this day as "Day of Social Harmony". The Tamil Nadu government has declared it a "Day of Equality". At the same time, attempts are also being made to (mis)appropriate Ambedkar by parties, organisations and individuals of various ideological persuasions for their own interests without making any effort to embody Ambedkar's principles of socio-cultural justice and economic fairness.

Celebration needs substance

A critical examination of these celebrations, at least in India, reveals that these are primarily a celebration of Ambedkar's zeal, mainly keeping electoral gains in mind. This maybe important but it does not do justice to Ambedkar's grand emancipatory vision of democracy. Most of these celebrations have not only been oblivious of Ambedkar's anti-caste and anti-patriarchal vision but also seem to be deliberately ignoring his worldview on economic equality, fairness and justice. The existing economic system pursued by the political parties at the Centre and State levels is mostly antagonistic to the model envisioned by Ambedkar. It would be worthy to revisit some of the salient features of his works on economic democracy to draw lessons for today. As Labour Minister (Member) of the Viceroy's Council (1942-1946) and through his writings such as States and Minorities (1947), Ambedkar clearly laid out his vision regarding the substance of political economy.

As far back as 1928, Babasaheb had struggled to get the Maternity Benefit Bill passed in the Bombay Legislative Council. This was later taken up by the Madras Legislative Council in 1934. In 1942, Ambedkar changed the work time to eight hours per day from earlier 12 hours. Ironically, the current dispensation, during the COVID-19 pandemic, wanted to bring back the 12 hours of work a day norm. Recently, a few trade unions had to submit a memorandum to the Bharatiya Janata Party government opposing its plan to change the Factories Act, 1948 to reinstate 12 hours of work. In fact, the Uttar Pradesh government in 2020 was forced to rollback 12 hours of work time after labour unions protested and the Allahabad High Court issued a notice to the government.

The process of massive 'contractualisation' and 'informalisation/casualisation' of labourers since the 1990s has not only widened the economic inequality between employer and employee but also between high paid permanent employees on the one hand and low paid regular, contractual and temporary employees on the other. Contract workers have increased from 15.5% in 2000-01 to 27.9% in 2015-16 even in the organised manufacturing sector. In States such as Bihar, Uttarakhand and Odisha, a majority of the organised manufacturing workforce is contractual. Despite the prohibition under the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970, contract workers are being paid lower salary/wage for the same work. This is a clear violation of the law and Article 141 of the Constitution, as observed by the Supreme Court of India in 2016. The Supreme Court overturned the verdict of the Punjab and Haryana High Court that temporary employees of Punjab government were not entitled to equal pay for equal work on par with permanent employees. Even among regular workers, according to the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) data (2017-18), 45% were paid less than ₹10,000 a month and 72% were paid below ₹18,000 a month. Only around 3% of regular workers earned between ₹50,000 to ₹1,00,000 a month and only 0.2% earned more than ₹1,00,000 a month. The emergence of new classes and new contradictions threatens the very democratic existence and secular fabric of this country. Ambedkar was clear that a continued existence of glaring inequalities and the tyranny of majority will sound the death knell of Indian democracy.

GETTY IMAGES

Adhering to the principles

It is worth recalling here that Ambedkar not only established equal pay for equal work irrespective of gender as a member of the Viceroy's Council but also included this as part of the Directive Principles in the Indian Constitution. However, women still continue to receive on average between ₹70 to ₹90 a day, less than men as both formal and informal workers. Imagine what would have been the stand of Ambedkar regarding this had he been alive? He would have been equally shocked to see the huge pay gap between formal and informal sector workers. Informal workers constitute 93% of the formal and informal sector workforce in India. Some recent estimates suggest that informal sector workers on average continue to get 30% to 40% of the real daily wage of formal workers. The four labour codes (on wages, social security, occupational safety and industrial relations), which were brought in by the BJP government after consolidating 44 labour laws, are going to worsen the situation of workers.

Workers in the unorganised sector organised a protest in April 2022 in Tamil Nadu urging the State government to pass a resolution in the State Assembly demanding that the Central government withdraw the four labour codes. One of these codes – Industrial Relations Code, 2020 (IRC) – directly infringes upon the right to strike, which was recognised by Ambedkar as one of the fundamental rights of workers. This was the reason the Indian Trade Unions (Amendment) Bill was passed in 1943, with the effort of Ambedkar, which had made recognition of trade unions compulsory. There were many other contributions of Ambedkar in institutionalising laws related to worker's insurance, minimum wages, worker's welfare, etc., many of which the four labour codes seek to circumvent or reverse surreptitiously. Therefore, it is high time we stand by the ideals of the architect of the Constitution.

Ambedkar's vision

It is imperative to understand the main reasons behind Ambedkar's active interest in economic and labour rights. First, he strongly argued for simultaneously addressing substantive questions of political, social, and economic democracy because they are intertwined with each other in a way that leaving out one will jeopardise the progress made in another. Second, he was as much a believer in economic justice as in social justice.

This becomes clear when we go through his work, States and Minorities. This document not only contained extensive safeguards for the emancipation of the Scheduled Castes but also laid out his vision of socio-cultural justice and economic fairness. He had argued for nationalisation of key and basic industries, the agriculture and insurance sectors. He wanted the State to allocate agriculture land only on tenancy basis to people (irrespective of caste, class and creed) for collective farming. This vision was obviously against whatever is being done in the country in the post-liberalisation period and greatly intensified in the last decade or so. The on-going monetisation/sell-off/privatisation of airports, the Indian Railways, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL)/ Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL), the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC), public sector banks and other public sector organisations are grave assaults on economic democracy.

It is not without reason that labour was placed under the Concurrent list in the Indian Constitution. Further, the Labour Investigation Committee and Labour Commissioners' were instituted by Babasaheb to ameliorate the condition of workers as much as possible within the existing law. Hence, the Union and State governments must take the lead in not only stalling the privatisation spree and undertake necessary measures to get the four labour codes repealed but also take proactive measures to follow the triad vision of democracy – social, economic and political – if they want to celebrate Babasaheb in the true sense. Without adhering to Ambedkar's ideals and merely appropriating the icon is just another pretext to divert people's attention from everyday materiality. Dr. Ambedkar was dead against hero worship or Bhakti in politics, which he thought was a sure path to degradation of democracy and eventual dictatorship.

C. Lakshmanan is Associate Professor, Madras Institute of Development Studies (MIDS), Chennai. Aparajay is an independent researcher

Disability and the barriers to feminine hygiene

Economic and structural factors create more hurdles to hygiene management, good health, health-seeking behaviours

V.K. MADHAVAN & ANDREA WOJNAR

In the past decade, significant progress has been made in India by government and non-governmental actors with regard to menstrual health and hygiene management (MHHM). Increased awareness about MHHM, enhanced access to female friendly/ gender appropriate sanitation facilities and availability of menstrual products, in particular sanitary pads, are some of the visible outcomes of this progress. However, certain groups have been overlooked thus far, including girls and women with disabilities, who face an exceptional burden on account of the intersections between gender and disability.

Census data, Act's ambit

According to Census 2011, nearly 27 million persons (or 2.2% of the Indian population) are disabled. The Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 specifies that a person with disabilities has "long term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairment which, in interaction with barriers, hinders [her]/his full and effective participation in society equally with others". Persons with disability are unable to fully participate in many areas of daily life or may be excluded from doing so as a consequence of impairments/societal barriers or socio-cultural attitudes.

Magnified vulnerabilities

The 2016 Act, while stipulating the rights and entitlements of persons with disability, recognised that women and children are particularly vulnerable, and that certain rights, such as reproductive rights, may be even more neglected or disregarded as compared to others. Despite the intent of the Act and its provisions, the realisation of rights and entitlements of persons with disability is poor, especially for those from socially and economically vulnerable groups. In India, girls and women with disabilities from poor households and marginalised communities, bear a triple burden that exacerbates their vulnerabilities.

Deeply embedded prejudices and misconceptions about the reproductive anatomy and abilities of persons with disability result in their being considered asexual, unsuitable for marriage, and incapable of having and raising children. Access to sexual and reproductive health information and services are in turn compromised because of these social and physical barriers. Several studies bear testimony to this, and reveal that persons with disability are more likely to be denied information about sexual and reproductive health as compared to those without disabilities. Field experiences reveal compromised menstrual health, a basic physiological aspect of sexual and reproductive health, among persons with disability.

GETTY IMAGES

For a vast majority of women and girls and persons with gender diverse identities, menstruation is more than a mere physiological process due to preconceived notions about menstruators and menstrual blood being impure or dirty. Economic and structural factors create additional hurdles to hygiene management, good health, and health-seeking behaviours. Constraints imposed by limited mobility, cognitive capacities and self-care pose even greater challenges for girls and women with disabilities.

Collaboration for solutions

The United Nations Population Fund and WaterAid India are working together to understand the key challenges and constraints faced by persons with disability with regard to menstrual health and hygiene. The aim is to identify simple and potentially scalable solutions based on insights from individuals and organisations working with persons with disability across the country. There are critical areas for improving the menstrual health of persons with disability that have emerged. These include: Accessible and adapted Information, education and communication on menstrual health and hygiene for persons with disability based on their differential needs and capacities, and an enabling socio-cultural environment. For example, while the core messages related to menstruation and menstrual hygiene are the same for all, the manner in which information is communicated will vary depending on the type of disability and extent of impairment. Tactile models accompanied by audio explanations can help people with visual impairment, whereas the same models accompanied by materials with clear step-by-step visuals are useful for people with hearing impairments.

The second is appropriate and safe menstrual products and hygiene promotion. Fewer than two-thirds of girls and women with disabilities aged between 15 to 24 years use hygienic menstrual protection methods (National Family Health Survey 2019-20). Thus, persons with disability and caregivers need to be educated on the diverse range of products available to enable them to choose the most appropriate product. Persons with intellectual impairments are highly sensitive to materials and may require those that are soft to touch and cause less irritation. Persons with mobility restrictions require products that can be worn for longer as changing them frequently poses a challenge.

The third is responsive and inclusive water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) facilities, including disposal solutions in different settings. Accessible designs of WASH infrastructure for diverse needs exist and have been created in rural and urban contexts in India and particularly in schools, but need to be scaled up for wider coverage.

The fourth is caregivers, both from within the family and institutions are vital for disability focused interventions and must be included as both participants and partners. From a policy perspective, there is a need to incorporate a disability-inclusive approach within the menstrual health and hygiene work in the country and to implement specific disability focused interventions to facilitate inclusion.

It is a right

Every menstruating person has the right to menstrual health, irrespective of their gender identity, ability, or socio-economic status. While India has made significant progress busting stigmas around menstrual health and expanding access to hygiene products, let us not leave anyone behind. Let us raise the bar to ensure that all menstruating persons – abled or differently abled – enjoy the same dignity and rights every month of the year.

V.K. Madhavan is Chief Executive, WaterAid India. Andrea Wojnar is UNFPA India Representative and Country Director Bhutan

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address and the full name or the name with initials.

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School shooting

The gruesome gunning down of several children of a school in Texas is a rude shock. Even though the exact reason is still unknown, the incident should be an eye-opener. The possession of guns by individuals, irrespective of age, is asking for trouble. It is time the U.S. government proclaims a law banning the possession of guns without any valid purpose.

P.S. RAJAGOPALAN,
Chennai

■ The killing of innocent children makes one's heart palpitate. That people are so helpless in bringing in stricter gun control rules makes the right to life purposeless. When the U.S. Supreme Court speaks so eloquently about the rights of unborn children, what about those of living children? Who is to speak for them? Is the gun lobby so powerful? Are we in a civilised state?

N.G.R. PRASAD,
Chennai

■ The murder of many innocent schoolchildren is horrible. Hatred created by vengeance and violence has no place on earth. The U.S. seems to be paying a heavy price for lax gun control.

VARANASI GOPALAKRISHNA,
Chennai

■ It has been said that the root cause for the gunman to go on a shooting spree is humiliation from peers due to some deficiencies. The accumulation of humiliation results in alienation. When alienation is not recognised by teachers and parents it morphs into rage. Rage then needs an outlet to express itself. Perhaps schools and parents need to communicate frequently and more meaningfully. What we need is humiliation management, alienation management and rage management.

R. NARAYANAN,
Thiruvananthapuram

The Quad and India

From the Indian perspective, its participation in the Quad summit in Japan was an opportunity to showcase to all its Asian neighbours that India can respond strongly when it comes to ensuring geopolitical stability. Regular summits between the four Quad countries can help build a solid foundation for a new principle-based multilateral world order.

OJAL JAIN,
Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh

Sensitivities involved

A.G. Perarivalan is now free. While one would not begrudge him his smile, the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister meeting him was a confusing signal. One can only suppose that the gesture was more in celebration of having re-asserted the rights of the State *vis-à-vis* the Governor. In the flush of that victory, the sensitivities of the TN government's political ally seem to have been forgotten. One only hopes there is more sobriety if and when the other convicted co-conspirators are released.

R. THOMAS PAUL,
Bengaluru

CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS: The rally in Alappuzha referred to in the Editorial, "Communal clouds" (May 26), was organised by the Popular Front of India (PFI), and not the SDPI, which is widely recognised as the political arm of the PFI.

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In Seoni, the blood trail of a lynching

After two Adivasi men were lynched in Madhya Pradesh by cow vigilantes allegedly belonging to the Sri Ram Sena and Bajrang Dal, the State government constituted a Special Investigation Team to probe the case. **Shubhomoy Sikdar** reports on the incident that has led to a climate of fear in the district

Sampat Lal Vatti's mother Bisania Bai; his eldest daughter Seema; and his wife Mathho Bai after his death in Sagar village of Seoni. (Below): Phoolwati and her son Jai Prakash recall the events of the night Dhansha Invati was lynched in Simariya village in Seoni.
• FARUQUI AM

Phoolwati breaks down when she speaks of her husband Dhansha Invati, who was killed by a mob earlier this month. "I kept pleading with them to at least tell me where they were taking him. And to show me the cow meat that he had been accused of possessing. But what I received instead were blows and abuses," she says.

On the night of May 2-3, Phoolwati and Dhansha had been fast asleep outside their kaccha house in Simariya village in the Kurai block of Seoni district in Madhya Pradesh. It was when she heard thudding sounds that Phoolwati woke up to see a group of men assaulting her husband. Their elder son Jai Prakash, who lives next door, also rushed out on hearing the commotion. He pleaded with the mob to let Dhansha go, but the men paid no heed. Threats from the mob forced Phoolwati and Jai Prakash to retreat to their homes. The men took Dhansha away. Phoolwati and her son are unsure of how old he was; they reckon he was "upwards of 50".

Dhansha, a part-time farmer and casual labourer, was one of the two Adivasi men who were lynched during the early hours of May 3. The other, Sampat Lal Vatti, 52, lived in the neighbouring village of Sagar, also in Seoni district and around 400 km from Bhopal, the State capital. Sampat Lal's family, who were not at home at the time of the incident, say they heard that he went to Simariya upon hearing of the assault taking place there and also became a victim of the mob.

So far, 14 men have been arrested in the case. G.S. Uikey, who was in charge of the Kurai police station under whose jurisdiction the two villages fall, had alleged that the attackers belong to the Bajrang Dal and Sri Ram Sena. The families of the two men have also made the same claim. Denying these allegations, the Madhya Pradesh government transferred Uikey and all the officers of that police station, and formed a Special Investigation Team (SIT) to conduct the probe. Even as investigations go on, the residents of the village fear for their lives.

A night of terror

Eyewitnesses of the assault, including Brijesh Vatti who woke up on hearing the noise outside his house, say the incident took place between 2.30 a.m. and 3.00 a.m. Rushing out, they saw 15-20 men hitting Dhansha and Sampat Lal with sticks and batons while accusing them of possessing beef. The mob demanded to know the names of the others responsible for "killing a cow". They wanted to take Dhansha, Sampat Lal and Brijesh, who was also assaulted but survived the attack, to the Badalpar police post nearby. By that time the police arrived and seized a bag of meat from the spot that the mob claimed had been in Dhansha and Sampat Lal's possesion. They took the three injured men to the Kurai government hospital. Dhansha succumbed to his injuries at around 6 a.m. Sampat Lal died half an hour later.

Sagar village is a 30-minute walk from the Invati household. Mathho Bai Vatti, Sampat Lal's wife, lives with her mother-in-law, Bisania Bai, and two daughters, Seema and Sonal. Unlike Phoolwati, Mathho Bai did not get a glimpse of her husband just before he died. "My daughters and I had gone for a wedding while my mother-in-law had gone for another," she says. "My husband stayed back to take care of the house. I then heard from people that he had gone to Simariya village. I later saw a video in which he was being tortured by a mob. Those men were forcefully trying to extract a confession from him. It was an unbearable sight."

Following the incident, a CCTV camera has been installed outside Dhansha's mud house in Simariya. Phoolwati lives alone following her husband's death. The house has a modest kitchen and a storeroom for forest produce. It does not have power supply. Goats sometimes saunter in. Jai Prakash lives with his wife and two daughters in a better equipped concrete house next door. Phoolwati's younger son, Om Prakash, is a daily wager in Mumbai. He is yet to come home after his father's death as taking leave for a few days could cost him his job.

Economic opportunities are few in the tribal-dominated Seoni district, which is largely covered with forests. Some shops in Seoni town open as late as noon. There are no major manufacturing activities in the town. The Pench Tiger Reserve provides some jobs in the tourism sector. But the Adivasis in the district mostly till small parcels of land or collect forest produce such as mahua. Since this brings them little income or ends after a season, they also sometimes look for jobs in the nearby district of Nagpur in Maharashtra. Before he was assaulted by the mob, Dhansha had been planning to go to Nagpur. Sampat Lal, on the other hand, had not sought work in the big cities and had depended on whatever he could find in Sagar or the nearby villages. His family says he was saving up to build a concrete house and organise his 19-year-old daughter Seema's wedding.

"There are limited opportunities in the village and the pandemic years made our lives even tougher. All the hard work he did is now of no use. He will never be able to see any of his dreams come true," says Mathho. Sampat Lal's mother Bisania recalls how he had worked overtime to get a smartphone for Sonal who needed one to continue her education during the lockdown. Seema had already quit school because she did not have one. For Bisania, the tragedy is especially devastating as she had lost her other son to tuberculosis just a few years ago.

Brijesh, 26, whose house is a stone's throw away from the Invati household, had got married about a fortnight before the incident. He and his wife live with his parents, two sisters and grandmother. Some consider him lucky for having escaped death after being beaten so mercilessly. Brijesh is grateful that the villagers saved him that night, but he is fraught with anxiety now. "The incident has left a deep impact on me," he says. "I have not been able to resume work since then. Being the only earning member of a family of seven, this cannot be the case forever." Though he wants to go back to his routine, the fear that such an assault may occur again has left him with a sense of dread, he says.

The probe

Since Seoni district is close to Nagpur, rumours often float around that cattle are smuggled from Madhya Pradesh to Maharashtra to be slaughtered. In both the States, cow slaughter is banned. If anyone is suspected of slaughtering a cow, the burden of proof falls on the accused, as per State laws.

While Kurai block is used to the murmurs, the recent incident is a first and has caused great disquiet. "The swiftness and suddenness with which two of our own were picked up and lynched is shocking. Our village had kept its peace. It is under strain now. Forget violence or cow vigilantism, I had not even seen Bajrang Dal volunteer movements or outreach activities here. And suddenly one night, a bunch of 15-20 people come and just beat two men so severely that they don't survive," says Indar Namurte, whose house is about 200 metres from Dhansha's house.

Namurte, a farmer, says that of the 160-odd homes in the villages, 125 are Gond families. The rest of the population consists of people belonging to Other Backward Classes, primarily the Teli and Pal castes. "This is a tribal majority village. If we are not safe here, where else do we go? And how can we take the administration's assurances on face value," he asks.

Sewak Ram Dhurve, a Gond who lives in Sagar, where Sampat Lal lived, echoes these sentiments. He fears retaliation by the 14 men who have been arrested in connection with the lynching incidents so far. "If there is no strong message from the administration, they will not fear the law. They can come after any one of us on the pretext of cow slaughter," he says. "The way the probe is progressing, it won't take long for them to come out on bail and come back to avenge their incarceration. And even if they continue to be in custody, others can do the same when the spotlight on these deaths dies down."

Dhurve is referring to the stream of visits by administrative officials and politicians after the incident, including of former Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Kamal Nath of the Congress. The Congress's Arjun Singh Kakodia represents the Barghat (Reserved) Assembly seat in which Simariya and Sagar fall. Nath met the families earlier this week, and charged the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) government, headed by Shivraj Singh Chouhan, of shielding the accused due to their alleged association with the Bajrang Dal and Sri Ram Sena. Kakodia alleged that the State government formed an SIT to investigate the incident after Uikey's statement. Another special team, which had been formed before the SIT, visited the village on May 15. It met the families and briefed them about the SIT.

"I don't know about these technicalities," says Phoolwati when asked if the formation of the SIT came as a reassurance. Jai Prakash says that the local police, which was investigating the matter before the formation of the SIT, "were also doing a decent job". Apart from Uikey and the Congress, the families of the deceased, and Brijesh, maintain their claim that the "goons belong to the Bajrang Dal and Sri Ram Sena".

While the Congress won a significant number of the reserved seats for the Scheduled Tribes in the 2018 Assembly elections, the BJP has made considerable efforts in consolidating its electoral outreach in tribal areas in recent decades. Chouhan has been the flag-bearer of 'cow protection'. When he returned to power in 2020, he even announced the formation of a 'Gau cabinet (cow cabinet)'. Refuting the allegations that the accused are associated with the Bajrang Dal and Sri Ram Sena, Madhya Pradesh Home Minister Narottam Mishra had said that the initial investigation had found that no members of the Bajrang Dal or Sri Ram Sena were involved in the attacks. Members of the special team have chosen to remain silent on the affiliation of the 14 men arrested so far, and the SIT has refused to speak to the media.

The accused from Seoni

All the men arrested belong to Seoni district; most of them are in their twenties and thirties. The families and neighbours of the victims have also sought the arrest of Shubham Baghel. A video where he repeatedly refers to the two dead men as "*gau kasai*" (cow slaughterers) went viral after the incident. In the video, Baghel is seen blaming the police, instead of the mob, for the deaths of the Adivasis. Since the incident, he has posted videos on Facebook of Sri Ram Sena activists going to the residence of an accused and taking a vow to "save them all".

"Such brazen display of solidarity with the accused has made us more apprehensive. The police have provided security to the affected families, but until people like Baghel are arrested, it does not mean anything," says Anshul Shah Markam, a lawyer and social activist from Gwari village in Kurai block. Markam, who belongs to the Pardhan tribe, is also the founding member and the State spokesperson of the Jai Adivasi Yuva Sangathan. Baghel was unavailable for comments.

Since there are very few job-creation opportunities in Seoni district, right-wing groups have allegedly tapped the vast population of unemployed youth in the area to add heft to their activities. Says Kakodia: "Imagine a jobless youngster who is getting good food to eat, a vehicle to drive around in the whole day and local authorities and police fearing him. This creates a heady cocktail of power and luxury that the youth get used to. It emboldens them to take the law into their hands."

The Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP) Mahakoshal Division Sangathan Mantri, Awadhesh Pratap Singh, has not tried to distance himself from the accused. (The Bajrang Dal is the youth wing of the VHP.) But he says Adivasis are not the group's targets. "Adivasis are Hindus and follow the Sanatana Dharma. Why would we target them? Those who died were poor. They could not have engaged in beef trading. They have done it for someone else," he says. He does not elaborate on who the "others" are. Responding to this, Markam, the social activist, alleges that the right-wing groups themselves are involved in cattle smuggling.

What closure means

The government has announced compensation of ₹8 lakh and a job each for the next of the kin of both the deceased. Amar Singh Warkade, a Gond from Simariya village, who has been associated with many NGOS working for the Adivasis in Seoni, says the announcements of posting Sampat Lal's daughter Seema in a tribal girl's ashram and Jai Prakash Invati as a daily-wage earner in High School Vijayapani were made under the provisions of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act of 1989 and the Protection of Civil Rights Act of 1955. But the government should have done much more, he says. Uneducated Adivasis are not aware of their rights and the families should have got compensation of at least ₹1 crore, he says.

Groups such as the Gondwana Ganatantra Party, the Adivasi Adhikari Karmachari Sangh, the Jay Adivasi Yuva Shakti Sangathan and the Bhim Army have made similar demands. On May 9, they came together to stage one of the biggest protests in Seoni's history. It was attended by thousands of Adivasis from Seoni and nearby districts.

While investigations are ongoing and political parties make allegations and counter-allegations, Phoolwati and Jai Prakash bring up a buzzword that has gained currency in the Hindi heartland in recent months, to describe what closure means to them. "We want the houses of the attackers razed to the ground. After all, this is what we have come to know as justice in recent times. So, why should mob violence in our case be treated any differently," Phoolwati asks.

FROM PAGE ONE

International Booker Prize for Geetanjali

Ms. Shree said, "When a work appeals to unknown people sitting in faraway places, then it must have the ability to transcend its specific cultural context and touch the universal and the human. The final selection for the Booker shows how rich and meaningful my and Daisy's interactions have been."

Her translator, Ms. Rockwell chipped in, "The longlisting brought the book many new readers around the world, in English and in Hindi as well. It also created an awareness of Indian literature written in languages other than English, and I sincerely hope that awareness will grow into a desire for more."

It is an unprecedented moment in the history of literature in Indian languages. Ms. Shree is happy to soak in the moment. International newspapers and channels vied for the attention of Ms. Shree and Ms. Rockwell who are beseeched with requests for interviews from across the world.

Amidst all the chaos of flashing lights and reporters seeking replies, Ms. Shree hails her feat as not that of an individual, but an entire culture of literature of south Asia.

Ashok Maheshwari, managing director of Rajkamal Prakashan, the publishers of the Hindi original, nods in agreement, "It is a historic feat, unprecedented too. It is a moment of pride for Hindi literature and indeed all Indian languages."

His words are backed by early reports from the market. Penguin which published the English translation reported all copies sold out in the morning itself. By afternoon, there were reports of the book going into a reprint.

I want to see a phone in every hand, drone in every farm: PM

'We used technology as a bridge to take government benefits to the poor'

JAGRITI CHANDRA
NEW DELHI

At the launch of a two-day festival on drones here, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday hailed the use of technology in the past eight years as a "bridge" for reaching government benefits to the poor and mocked those who create "fear" about it. He said that while technology was earlier seen as anti-poor, under him its use had proliferated among the masses, instead of being the preserve of the few.

"This is a festival not just of technology, but of new India, new governance and unprecedented positivity. Eight years ago, when we implemented minimum government and maximum governance and made ease of living and ease of doing business our priority, we walked on the path of *sabka saath, sabka vikas* to connect every individual to the government," Mr. Modi said at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi.

Remote access: Narendra Modi flying a drone at the inauguration of the Bharat Drone Mahotsav in New Delhi. •PTI

He said his government had ensured that technology was used to bridge the gap in service delivery. It was his dream to see a mobile phone in every hand, a drone in every farm and prosperity in every house, he said. He also took a dig at those who criticised the government's reliance on technology.

The government had received flak for stepping up surveillance by making Aadhaar mandatory for receiving government benefits, and more recently by bringing in the DNA Technology (Use and Application) Regulation Bill, 2019 for identifying offenders, suspects, undertrials, among others.

Ensuring transparency

"We don't deny that technology doesn't create disruption. But it also opens new doors," he said. The "trinity" of Jan Dhan, Aadhaar and mobile had helped the government deliver schemes with complete transparency.

Drones took the promise of ease of living forward and would be yet another tool in the hands of the common man, Mr. Modi said.

Over 70 drone companies are participating in the two-day exhibition.

Fresh civil suit filed in Mathura dispute

Claim says idols buried under stairs

ABHINAV LAKSHMAN
NEW DELHI

In the ongoing Shahi Idgah Masjid-Shri Krishna Janmabhoomi dispute in Mathura, a fresh civil suit was filed on Friday, seeking that members of the public be stopped from visiting the Begum Sahiba Masjid near the Agra Red Fort's Deewan-e-Khas.

The suit claimed that "jewel-studded idols" from Mathura's Keshav Dev temple were buried under the staircase of the Agra mosque by Mughal emperor Aurangazeb when he allegedly destroyed the temple.

Advocate Mahendra Pratap Singh, one of the first plaintiffs in the dispute, has filed this fresh suit before the Civil Judge (Senior Division), Mathura. The suit has arrayed the Union of India, the Director-General of the Archeological Survey of India (ASI), and ASI officials in Mathura and Agra as defendants. Mr. Singh told *The Hindu* that the court on Friday directed the plaintiffs to serve a legal notice to the defendants under Section 80 of the Code of Civil Procedure, which mandates that 60 days' time be given to the defendants to respond to the notice.

Claiming that the idols continue to be buried under the staircase of the Begum Sahiba Mosque in Agra, the suit seeks that visitors be stopped from entering the mosque by "trampling on the idols". Moreover, the suit has sought directions to the relevant authorities for these claimed idols to be excavated from the Agra mosque site and returned to the temple authorities in Mathura.

In Mathura, more than half a dozen civil suits have been filed, seeking ownership of the land on which the Shahi Idgah Mosque is built.

Artist's killers among four militants killed

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
SRINAGAR

Four militants, including those behind the killing of Budgam artist Amreen Bhat on Wednesday, were killed in twin anti-militancy operations in Kashmir Valley's Pulwama and Srinagar districts on Friday.

Two militants of the Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) were killed in an overnight gunfight at Aganhanzipora area of Pulwama's Awantipora.

"Both were newly recruited militants, identified as Shahid Mushtaq Bhat and Farhan Habib. They had killed TV artist on the instruction of LeT commander Lateef. One AK 56 rifle, 4 magazines and a pistol were recovered," Inspector General of Police (IGP) Vijay Kumar said.

Bullet casings found at the site where 2 militants were shot dead. •NISSAR AHMAD

The artist, popular on social media for her reels, was shot dead and her nephew injured in the attack.

In capital Srinagar, the police said they killed two militants in Soura area in a predawn operation. "The two killed terrorists of LeT have been identified as Shakir Ahmed Waza and Afreen Aftab Malik," the police said.

Former Haryana CM Chautala gets 4-year jail in assets case

CBI court levies penalty; orders confiscation of properties

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

A Special Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) court in Delhi on Friday sentenced former Haryana Chief Minister Om Prakash Chautala to four years' rigorous imprisonment and imposed a penalty of ₹50 lakh on him after finding him guilty of amassing assets disproportionate to his income.

Special Judge Vikas Dhull had on May 21 convicted Mr. Chautala in the disproportionate assets case registered by the CBI in 2006, finding him guilty of charges under Sections 13(1)(e) and 13(2) of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988.

Om Prakash Chautala

The court had found Mr. Chautala guilty of amassing ₹2.81 crore (103%) in assets disproportionate to his known sources of income at the time.

Significantly, Special Public Prosecutor (SPP) Ajay Gupta said the court had also directed the confiscation of four properties of Mr. Chautala in Delhi and Haryana. The properties include a plot of land at Asola Farm in Delhi, a flat on Hailey Road in Delhi, another flat in Gurugram's Jan Pratinidhi Co-Operative Group Housing Society, and a plot of land in Panchkula – all of which put together are valued at over ₹2.48 crore.

The court directed the CBI to inform relevant local authorities of the confiscation of the aforementioned properties to the Government of India. The court also directed that ₹5 lakh out of the total fine of ₹50 lakh be paid to the CBI "in defraying the expenses incurred in the prosecution/investigation".

'Humiliated' Ashok Chandna seeks to resign

Resentment brews in Rajasthan Cong.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
JAIPUR

Barely two weeks after the high-profile *Chintan Shivir* of Congress held in Rajasthan's Udaipur city, a Minister in the party-ruled State has sought to step down. Minister of State for Sports and Youth Affairs Ashok Chandna created a flutter by saying he wanted to be relieved from his ministerial post.

Mr. Chandna's display of anger indicated the resentment brewing in the ruling Congress. The minister said that the CM's Principal Secretary Kuldeep Ranka was behaving like the "Minister of all the departments".

"I am making a personal request to the honourable Chief Minister to relieve me from this humiliating ministerial post and give the charge of all my departments to Shri Kuldeep Ranka," Mr. Chandna tweeted.

Ashok Chandna

After meeting Mr. Gehlot at his residence here late on Friday evening, Mr. Chandna toned down his tough stance and said the Chief Minister would take a correct decision.

Sharjeel Imam files plea for interim bail

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

JNU scholar and anti-CAA activist Sharjeel Imam on Friday moved an application for interim bail in a sedition case registered against him for anti-Citizenship Amendment Act speeches he had delivered in Aligarh Muslim University and the Jamia Nagar area in Delhi, citing the Supreme Court's directions to keep all proceedings in sedition (Section 124-A of IPC) cases in abeyance.

This comes a day after the Delhi HC granted Mr. Imam the liberty to approach the trial court. Without Section 124-A, the prosecution's case stands "significantly diluted", the application submitted.

SC stays Allahabad HC's bail condition to Azam Khan

It had 'disproportionate' demands, says the top court

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on May 27 stayed a condition imposed on Samajwadi Party leader Mohammad Azam Khan by the Allahabad High Court that he will only be granted regular bail if he "fully cooperates" with the measuring, walling and barb-wiring of a 13.842-hectare evacuee property, which is the focal point of a land grabbing case against the Rampur MLA.

The apex court said the condition imposed by the High Court for regular bail was "disproportionate and has no reasonable link with the conditions which are required to be imposed to secure the presence of the accused to ensure that the fairness of trial is not impeded".

Azam Khan

The court said the condition had *prima facie* "exceeded the settled parameters" for grant of bail. Mr. Khan has so far got bail in 88 criminal cases charged against him. This one was the 89th case.

A Vacation Bench of Justices D.Y. Chandrachud and Bela Trivedi also asked Mr. Khan's lawyer to show its stay order to the local authorities who want to "demolish" two buildings of Mohammad Ali Jauhar University, the politician's "dream project" in his constituency.

Mr. Khan is accused of cheating, forging documents, criminally trespassing and "encircling" the 13-odd hectares, an agricultural land which belonged to a person who migrated to Pakistan during the Partition and was later vested with the government under the Enemy Property Act of 1968, into the university grounds.

HC allows exhumation of third body in J&K

Four persons killed in 2021 encounter

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
SRINAGAR

The Jammu and Kashmir High Court on Friday allowed the family of Amir Latief Magray, one of the four persons killed in the Hyderpora encounter on November 14-15 last year in Srinagar, to exhume the body from north Kashmir's Baramulla for burial at his native place in Ramban in the Jammu region.

"Right to life and liberty guaranteed to a citizen by Article 21 of the Constitution of India includes the right of the citizen to live with human dignity. This right to live with human dignity even extends after death though in a limited extent," Justice Sanjeev Kumar observed.

The right of Muhammad Latief Magray, father of the deceased, to claim the body for performing the last rites in his own way and in accordance with local traditions and religious faith, which the deceased professed during his lifetime, cannot be disputed, the judge said.

Compensation ordered

The court directed the authorities to make necessary arrangements to exhume the body and transport the same in proper escort to Thatharka village in Ramban's Gool tehsil.

The court directed the authorities "to pay a compensation of ₹5 lakh for deprivation of his right to have the dead body of his son and give him decent burial as per family traditions, religious obligations and faith".

Mehbooba's sister, Farooq summoned by CBI and ED

Only Gupkar Alliance leaders are targeted in J&K, says NC

PEERZADA ASHIQ
SRINAGAR

National Conference (NC) president Farooq Abdullah and Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) president Mehbooba Mufti's sister Rubaiya Sayeed were summoned by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) and the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) in different cases on Friday.

Dr. Abdullah has been asked by the ED to join the investigation on May 31 at its Chandigarh office. Earlier, Dr. Abdullah was questioned twice in 2019 and 2020 by the ED, which is investigating alleged misappropriation of funds in the Jammu and Kashmir Cricket Association (JKCA). Dr. Abdullah was president of the JKCA from 2001 to 2011.

In Jammu, a TADA court summoned Ms. Sayeed, sister of Ms. Mufti and daughter of former Union Home Minister Mufti Mohammad Sayeed, on July 15 for recording her statement in relation to the abduction case involving JKLF chief Yasin Malik. Ms. Sayeed was kidnapped in 1989 by the gunmen of the JKLF in Srinagar. Ms. Sayeed, who was then daughter of Union Home Minister, is one of the prosecution witnesses in the abduction case.

The TADA court had last year framed charges against Malik and nine others in the abduction case. The development comes just two days after an National Investigation Agency (NIA) court awarded life sentence to Malik in a militancy funding case, which was registered by the agency in 2017.

Meanwhile, an NC spokesman said it was not a coincidence that only leaders who belong to the Peoples Alliance for the Gupkar Declaration were targeted in Jammu and Kashmir. Both the NC and the PDP are part of the Gupkar alliance. "Every time elections are expected to be announced in any State, the investigative agencies move in first to clear a path for the BJP. This appears to be the case this time as well and this is the price Opposition parties pay for opposing this government," the NC said.

CBI seized confidential documents, says Karti

It is a breach of privilege: Congress MP

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Congress MP Karti Chidambaram in a letter to Lok Sabha speaker Om Birla has complained against the CBI raids during which confidential documents pertaining to the Parliamentary Standing Committee for Information and Technology, of which he is a member, were seized by the agency.

He called it a breach of his Parliamentary privilege and interference by the agency in discharge of his duty as a law-maker.

Mr. Chidambaram in his letter said that over the course of the past few years, he and his family have become targets of a relentless campaign by the government and its investigating agencies who are trying to "silence" voices of dissent by "foisting one fake case after another".

"Such targeted intimidation of a member of the House amounts to a breach of privilege," he wrote.

"In the last round of raids, my handwritten notes pertaining to the depositions made to the committee by witnesses were also seized - for reasons best known to the agency," he said.

He urged the Speaker Mr. Birla to take cognisance of the issue.

'DMK top earning regional party in FY21'

YSRCP comes second, as per ADR report

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The DMK had the highest income and expenditure among the 31 regional parties analysed in 2020-2021, with its spending accounting for over half of the total income, a report by the Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) released on Friday said.

The ADR report analysed the annual income declarations submitted by regional parties to the Election Commission, though the reports of 23 out of the 54 regional parties were not available on the EC's website as on Friday despite the deadline for submission being October 31, 2021. Among the parties whose annual audited accounts were unavailable were the Rashtriya Janata Dal, the Samajwadi Party and the Jammu & Kashmir National Conference.

The 31 parties analysed had a total income of ₹529.41 crore, of which the DMK declared ₹149.95 crore, followed by the YSR Congress Party (₹107.99 crore), the Biju Janata Dal (₹73.34 crore), the Janata Dal(United) (₹65.31 crore) and the Telangana Rashtra Samithi (₹37.65 crore), the report said.

At the same time, the parties declared a total expenditure of ₹414.02 crore, of which the DMK accounted for 52.77% (₹218.49 crore). The Telugu Desam Party declared ₹54.76 crore in spending, followed by the AIADMK (₹42.36 crore).

The 31 parties declared that electoral bonds were the source of 47.34% of their income. In 2019-2020, more than 62% of the income of seven national parties came from electoral bonds, the report said.

Among its recommendations, the ADR said the reporting of financial information should be improved. "To ensure that there is transparency and accountability on the part of the political parties, there must be a strict mechanism with respect to reporting of financial information, so as to ensure that a true picture of the financial position of the political parties is revealed to the public," the report said.

BJP's tryst with 100-figure headcount in Rajya Sabha

Party's tally is set to fall in the next poll

SOBHANA K. NAIR
NEW DELHI

Last month, the BJP had touched the elusive 100-member mark in the Upper House but with the fresh round of Rajya Sabha elections scheduled for June this year, the party's tally will fall once again below this much celebrated fête.

On April 1 after winning three Rajya Sabha seats in the north-east, the BJP had reached the tally of 100. It was for the first time since 1988 that a ruling party touched this figure in the Upper House. In 1988 during the Rajiv Gandhi government, the Congress had a similar strength here.

In the June 10 elections, where 57 seats are up for grabs, as per the current records, the BJP has 24 seats, these include three from Andhra Pradesh after TDP MPs switched sides in June 2019. Out of the 24 seats, the BJP is likely to retain only 20 seats, bringing its current total of 95 members down to 91.

The losses for the BJP are expected from Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan, Jharkhand, Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh. The BJP is not particularly perturbed by missing the 100-figure mark, because with support of its allies, it has managed to get crucial Bills passed.

MRG-BGE

'India and EU are working on FTA text'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

India and the European Union (EU) were working on the first texts of the Free Trade Agreement (FTA) and "Putin's war" in Ukraine had put "some urgency" to it, German envoy to India Walter J. Lindner has said. Ukraine, along with climate change, shift to renewable energy and fight against terror, would be on top of the agenda in the coming G7 summit next month for which India had also been invited, he said.

In a media interaction organised by the Indian Women Press Corps, Mr. Lindner said, "They are now working on the first texts but of course the devil is in the detail... Most important thing is things are happening right now. Putin's war has also put some urgency to it. We see that we need partners to keep trade flowing in the world, and if we have partners with similar views which is EU and India, it helps."

India guided by interest of Afghans: Doval in NSA meet

NSA stresses that India remains important stakeholder; relationship to continue

SUHASINI HAIDAR
NEW DELHI

Afghanistan must ensure education for girls, National Security Adviser (NSA) Ajit Doval said at the 4th Regional Dialogue on Security being held in Tajikistan capital Dushanbe.

Emphasising India's decision to help Afghanistan with humanitarian aid even though it doesn't have relations with the Taliban regime, he asserted that India remained an "important stakeholder". "The special relationship with the people of Afghanistan over centuries will guide India's approach. Nothing can change this," he stated at the conference of NSAs and State Security Council Chiefsattended by China, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan. "Women and youth are critical for the future of any society. Provision of education to girls and employment to women and youth will ensure productivity and spur growth. It will also have a positive social impact including discouraging radical ideologies among youth," he observed, according to official accounts of the closed-door two-day meeting released to the media.

> Women and youth are critical for the future of any society. Provision of education to girls and employment to women and youth will ensure productivity and spur growth. It will also have a positive social impact, including discouraging radical ideologies among youth
>
> AJIT DOVAL
> National Security Adviser

In the past few weeks, international calls for the Taliban to rescind an order that mandated girl students in secondary schools, from grade 6-12 were not allowed to attend school. India was part of a United Nations Security Council statement criticising the Taliban regime's actions, as well as other restrictions on women in education and employment.

"There is need for all present at the Dialogue to enhance the capability of Afghanistan to counter terrorism and terrorist groups which pose a threat to regional peace and security," Mr. Doval remarked, according to news agency *PTI*, indicating that the government is prepared to distinguish between the Afghan regime and trans-national terror groups.

While India has refused to recognise the Taliban regime, it has engaged Taliban officials in Doha and other locations since their takeover of Kabul in August 2021. After Pakistan gave clearance for transit trade access, India has sent about 17000 metric tonnes (MT) of wheat out of a total commitment of 50000 MT, and has also sent vaccine doses for COVID-19 and Polio, urgently needed medicines and winter clothing on flights to Kabul. The Ministry of External Affairs has refused to confirm reports that India is also considering re-establishing its diplomatic presence in Kabul, as at least 15 countries, including Russia, China, Iran, Pakistan and a few Central Asian States have.

SC Collegium suggests transfer of six HC judges

CJI had emphasised on inclusivity

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court Collegium led by Chief Justice of India N.V. Ramana has recommended to the government to transfer or repatriate judges in six different High Courts.

Justice Ahsanuddin Amanullah has been recommended for transfer from Andhra Pradesh High Court to Patna High Court; Justice Chitta Ranjan Dash from Orissa to Calcutta; Justice Subhasis Talapatra from Tripura to Orissa; Justice Lanusungkum Jamir from Manipur to Gauhati; Justice Dhiraj Singh Thakur from Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh High Court to Bombay High Court; and Justice Purushaindra Kumar Kaurav from Madhya Pradesh to Delhi.

The inter-State transfers of high court judges recommended by the Collegium takes further Chief Justice Ramana's recent stress on inclusivity in judiciary. "The judiciary, as well as every other institution of our democracy, must mirror the social and geographical diversity of the country," the CJI had said recently.

Last year, the Supreme Court Collegium had transferred judges from across 14 of a total 25 High Courts in the country.

The Collegium recommendations in 2021 had covered the transfers of judges from the High Courts of Allahabad, Bombay, Calcutta, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Karnataka, Madras, Orissa, Patna, Punjab and Haryana, Rajasthan and Telangana.

Dhami sets up uniform civil code panel

NISTULA HEBBAR
NEW DELHI

The Uttarakhand government on Friday announced the formation of an expert committee to examine ways for the implementation of a uniform civil code, including a review of laws governing marriage, divorce, maintenance, inheritance, adoption and other personal laws.

Retired judge Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai, who is also the current head of the delimitation commission, will head the committee. It comprises retired judge Justice Pramod Kohli, social worker Manu Gaur (heading Taxpayers Association of Bharat), retired IAS officer Shatrughan Singh and Vice Chancellor of Doon University Surekha Dangwal.

The committee would examine all laws and matters related to personal law across communities, and draft a uniform civil code.

The term of the committee has not been mentioned in the notification.

The move comes after Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami had, two days before polling in the State in February, declared that if re-elected, his government would set in motion efforts to implement a uniform civil code.

In fact, the single item on the agenda of the first Cabinet meet held by him after he took oath again as Chief Minister in March, was to clear the proposal for setting up a committee.

According to sources, while there has been no mass movement seeking the implementation of a uniform civil code, for the BJP, the move is an article of faith, and rather than a wholesale push for a uniform civil code, which could be problematic, the party wants at least the State governments headed by it to attempt it.

Rajnath undertakes sea sortie on submarine INS Khanderi

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh undertook a sea sortie on a Scorpene class submarine 'INS Khanderi' at Karwar during which he witnessed a wide range of operational drills with the submarine demonstrating the advanced sensor suite, combat system and weapon capability which provides it a distinct advantage in the subsurface domain, the Navy said.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh with Navy chief Admiral R. Hari Kumar in Karwar on Friday. PTI

"The Defence Minister was given a first-hand insight into the combat capabilities and offensive strength of the state-of-the-art Kalvari class submarine. For over four hours, the full spectrum of capabilities of underwater operations of the stealth submarine was demonstrated...," the Navy said in a statement on Friday.

On India's first indigenous aircraft carrier 'Vikrant' which is scheduled to be commissioned very soon, Mr. Singh said it will bolster the maritime security of the country, along with INS Vikramaditya.

Action ordered against Wankhede

Independent witness had alleged extortion

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Sameer Wankhede

Appropriate action against the former Mumbai Zonal Director of the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB), Sameer Wankhede, has been recommended to the competent authority for a "shoddy" initial probe into the cruise case in which the agency has not found any prosecutable evidence against Bollywood actor Shah Rukh Khan's son Aryan Khan, according to government sources.

Under Mr. Wankhede's supervision, an NCB team arrested Mr. Aryan Khan along with others on October 3 last. Accused of offences under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, he spent over 3 weeks in judicial custody before being released on bail.

It is learnt that the government has now recommended to the Finance Ministry that appropriate action be initiated against the officer. An independent witness in the case, Prabhakar Sail, had alleged extortion in the case. The then Maharashtra government Minister Nawab Malik, had also accused Mr. Wankhede of using a forged caste certificate claiming himself to be from the Scheduled Caste category to get the job.

Gujarat has become 'gateway of drugs' to India: Congress

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

On a day the NCB gave clean chit to actor Shah Rukh Khan's son Aryan Khan, the Congress accused the government of turning a blind eye to multiple drug hauls in Gujarat. Congress spokesperson Pawan Khera called Gujarat the "gateway of drugs".

Mr. Khera said that since July 2017 till Thursday, there have been series of drug hauls from Gujarat ports. In the latest on May 26, 52 kg of cocaine was recovered from Mundra port, which is owned by Gautam Adani.

STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD, ODISHA
PARIBESH BHAWAN, A/118, NILAKANTHANAGAR,
UNIT-VIII, NAYAPALLI, BHUBANESWAR - 751 012
Website : www.ospcboard.org
EPABX : 0674-2562847
Email: paribesh1@ospcboard.org

No.: 9309 SPCB/ICZM/506/2019-2020 Date : 26/05/2022

E-TENDER CALL NOTICE

Notice Inviting E-Tender for **executing Dry Docking Repair Work of 'MV Sagar Utkal' berthed at DST Berth, Paradeep Port, Paradeep.**

Online Bids through e-Tender portal **(https://tendersodisha.gov.in)** are invited from eligible bidders for executing Dry Docking Repair Work of 'MV Sagar Utkal' as per the particulars mentioned below :

Sl.No.	Bid Reference No.	Item Name	Bid Document Cost
01	TCN No: 9308 Dt. 26.05.2022	Executing Dry Docking Repair Work of 'MV Sagar Utkal' berthed at DST Berth, Paradeep Port, Paradeep	Free of Cost

Sl.No.	Particulars	Date and Time
01.	Date of Publishing of tender	27.05.2022
02.	Bid document download start date	27.05.2022 (4.00 PM)
03.	Duration of downloading of bid document	12 Days
04.	Last date of download of Bid document	07.06.2022 (12.00 PM)
05.	Opening of Technical Bid Folder	07.06.2022 (4.00 PM) Conference Hall at Central Laboratory Plot No.59 B 2&3 Chandaka I.E Patia, KIIT, Bhubaneswar-751024
06.	All other Information	All other Information will be updated in https://tendersodisha.gov.in and www.ospcboard.org

The bid document with all information relating to the bidding process including cost of bid document, EMDs, Prequalification criteria and terms & condition are available in the website: **https://tendersodisha.gov.in** and **www.ospcboard.org**. The Authority reserves the right to accept / reject any part thereof or all the bids without assigning any reason thereof.

Member Secretary

CAD-655 OIPR-08012/11/0091/2223

भारतीय विज्ञान शिक्षा एवं अनुसंधान संस्थान बरहमपुर
Indian Institute of Science Education and Research Berhampur
Established by the Ministry of Education, Government of India

Advt. No. NT- 01/2022

Opening date for submission of online application: ***09:00 AM of May 31, 2022***
Closing date of submission of online application: ***05:30 PM of June 20, 2022***
Crucial date for calculation of upper age/ qualification/ experience: ***June 20, 2022***

Indian Institute of Science Education and Research Berhampur, an Institute of National Importance, established by the Ministry of Education, Government of India in order to promote higher scientific learning and research as well as scientific exploration at the undergraduate and postgraduate levels of education and to create scientists and academicians of the highest quality invites ONLINE applications (**www.iiserbpr.ac.in**) from eligible Indian nationals to fill-up the following sanctioned posts as per the reservation and mode of recruitment mentioned against each:-

S. No.	Name of the posts	Group	Pay level (as per 7th CPC)	Mode of recruitment	Vertical Reservation					Horizontal Reservation	Total No. of posts
					UR	SC	ST	OBC	EWS	PWD	
1	**Registrar**	A	Level 14	Contract/ Deputation	01	00	00	00	00	00	01
2	**Librarian**	A	Level 14 (AGP)	Direct Recruitment/ Deputation	01	00	00	00	00	00	01
3	**Technical Officer**	A	Level 10	Direct Recruitment	01	00	00	00	00	00	01
4	**Assistant Security Officer cum Transport Manager**	B	Level 06	Direct Recruitment	01	00	00	00	00	00	01
5	**Laboratory Technician**	C	Level 05	Direct Recruitment	01	00	00	00	00	00	01

Sd/-
सहायक कुलसचिव (प्रशासन) /
Assistant Registrar (Admin)

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer, (Project-East), Nethaji Subhash Chandra Bose Building (PUB), 21st Floor, M.G. Road, Bengaluru-560001.

No.EE(P-E)/TEND/02/2022-23 Date: 27.05.2022

INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER(IFT)
(Through GOK e-Procurement Portal only) (Two Cover System) (KW-3 & KW-4)

The Executive Engineer, Project- East Division, invites tenders from eligible Tenderers for the works detailed in the table below:

Sl. No.	Name of Work	Approx. Amount put to tender (Rs. in Lakhs)	EMD (in Rs.)
1	Improvements of Park, Other Developments, Grill, Pathway and Borewell works in Ward No. 27.	300.00	4,50,000/-
2	Improvements to Cement Concrete Road and other works in Sarvagnanagar Ward No. 79.	75.00	1,50,000/-
3	Improvements to Parks at Kalahalli in Sarvagnanagar Ward No. 79.	75.00	1,50,000/-

1) Tender documents may be downloaded from the e-procurement portal **from 01.06.2022 onwards. 2)** Last date for submission of tender document : **09.06.2022, upto 16:00 Hrs. 3)** Date of opening of technical bids: **10.06.2022 at 16.30 Hrs.** Further details can be accessed from GoK e-procurement website: **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** or contact e-procurement helpdesk at : 080-22371090/ 22340060/ 22340948 or contact undersigned office.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Project - East Division.

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कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता, सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग, सम्भाग कोटा
क्रमांक : 727 दिनांक : 23.05.2022

निविदा सूचना संख्या 05/2022-23

[illegible]

मुख्यालय का नाम	:	कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियंता सा.नि.वि. सम्भाग कोटा
निविदा का कार्य	:	Widening & Strengthening of Dhanava-Dablana-Bhavanipura-Ranipura-Bansi-Nainwa on MDR-183, Km. 0/0 to 45/0 in Distt. Bundi. Central Road & Infrastructure Fund (CRIF) के अन्तर्गत चौड़ाईकरण एवं सुदृढ़ीकरण का कार्य।
निविदा की कुल लागत	:	5167.46 लाख
कुल धरोहर राशि (रु. में)	:	20.00 करोड़ तक 2% (अधिकतम 30.00 लाख) 20.00 करोड़ से 50.00 करोड़ तक 1.50% (अधिकतम 50.00 लाख) 50.00 करोड़ तक 1%
ऑनलाइन निविदा फार्म मिलने की तारीख	:	03.06.2022 से 04.07.2022 सायं 6.00 बजे तक
ऑनलाइन निविदा फार्म जमा कराने की तारीख	:	03.06.2022 से 04.07.2022 सायं 6.00 बजे तक
ऑनलाइन तकनीकी निविदा खोलने की तिथि	:	निविदा खोलने की तिथि 06.07.2022 अपराह्न 03:00 बजे कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियंता सा.नि.वि. सम्भाग कोटा
निविदा शुल्क/धरोहर राशि जमा कराने की दिनांक एवं समयावधि	:	[illegible] 8443-00-108-00-00 [illegible] 0075-00-800-52-01 RISL [illegible] 1000 [illegible] 8658-00-102-(16)-(02) [illegible] 04.07.2022 सायं 6.00 बजे तक [illegible] RISL [illegible] (Certificate of correctness of bid documents) [illegible] 1000/ [illegible]
प्रीबिड मीटिंग की दिनांक	:	14.06.2022 प्रातः 11:00 बजे (मंगलवार), कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियंता सा.नि.वि. सम्भाग कोटा
निविदा वैधता अवधि	:	120 दिवस

निविदा से सम्बन्धित समस्त विवरण वेबसाइट www.dipr.rajasthan.gov.in, http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in तथा http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in पर देखा जा सकता है। [illegible] http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in [illegible]
UBN No.: PWD2223WLOB01854

[illegible]
अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता, सा.नि.वि. सम्भाग कोटा
डीआईपीआर/सी/7261/2022

THRISSUR CORPORATION - ELECTRICITY DEPARTMENT
ED1-1190/21 Date: 19.05.2022

E-TENDER NOTICE

The e-tenders should reach on or before 2 PM on 24.06.2022.

e-Tenders are invited for the Supply of Materials as per Annual Purchase of TCED - 2022.

For more details please log on to **www.etenders.kerala.gov.in** contact Electricity Department, Thrissur Corporation on working hours - Ph: 0487 - 2423559.

Sd/-
Assistant Secretary

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KERALA STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD LIMITED - E-TENDER NOTICE

O/o the Executive Engineer, Transmission Division, Thrissur
E-Tender ID : 2022_KSEB_492144_1, PAC - Rs.1,18,95,077,
Last date - 10.06.2022, 6.00 pm

O/o the Chief Engineer(PED), Vydyuthi Bhavanam, Pattom, Thiruvananthapuram
E-Tender ID : 2022_KSEB_491698_1, PAC - Rs 36,46,74,000/-
Last date - 07.07.2022, 5.00 pm

O/o the Executive Engineer (PMU), Electrical Circle, Manjeri Corrigendum
E-Tender ID : 2022_KSEB_489682_1, PAC - Rs 1,65,16,800/-,
Last date 31.05.2022, 05.00 pm

Visit www.etenders.kerala.gov.in and www.kseb.in
Ref : PR /MC1 /E357/ E- Tender /2022

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NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Tender No.	Material Description	Due Date
222313 001122	Procurement of Sodium Hydrosulphite for Unit - I	10.06.2022

Corrigendum if any will be issued in TNPL website only.
Detailed Terms & conditions, Tender fee, EMD, etc., are available in tender document at our websites: www.tnpl.com / www.tenders.tn.gov.in

DIPR/2537/Tender/2022 *TNPL - Maker of bagasse based eco-friendly Paper*

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अखिल भारतीय आयुर्विज्ञान संस्थान, नागपुर
ALL INDIA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES, NAGPUR
Address: Plot no.2, Sector -20, MIHAN, Nagpur - 441108
Website: http://aiimsnagpur.edu.in

Advt. No. AIIMS/NGP/Admin-I/Faculty/2022/01 Dated: 28/05/2022

ADVERTISEMENT FOR RECRUITMENT TO THE POSTS OF FACULTY (GROUP A) ON DIRECT RECRUITMENT BASIS IN VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS OF AIIMS, NAGPUR

Opening Date: 28/05/2022 **Closing Date: 27/06/2022**

AIIMS Nagpur, established under PMSSY with objectives of improving regional imbalances in the availability of affordable/ reliable tertiary healthcare services and also to augment facilities for quality medical education in the country. The Institute has started functioning from session 2018-19. It is envisioned to develop into an institute with highest standards of teaching, training and research.

In this regard, applications are invited by the Director, AIIMS, Nagpur from Indian nationals/persons registered as Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) cardholder under Section 7A of the Citizenship Act, 1955 for the following faculty posts (new and backlog) on regular basis required for AIIMS, Nagpur:

Sl. No.	Subject	Professor	Additional Professor	Associate Professor	Assistant Professor
1.	Anaesthesiology	01 (ST)#	-	-	
2.	Biostatistics	-	01 (UR)	-	
3.	Burn and Plastic Surgery*	-	01 (UR)	-	
4.	Cardiology*	01 (UR)	-	-	
5.	Cardiothoracic Surgery*	-	-	01 (UR)#	
6.	Dentistry (OMFS)	01 (EWS)	-	-	
7.	Endocrinology and Metabolism*	-	01 (SC)	01 (OBC)#	01 (ST)
8.	Gastroenterology (Medical)*	-	01 (UR)	-	01 (OBC)#
9.	General Medicine	-	-	-	01 (ST)# 01(SC)#
10.	Hospital Administration	-	-	01 (EWS)#	
11.	Medical Oncology*	-	-	-	01 (UR)#
12.	Nephrology*	01 (OBC)	-	01 (SC)#	
13.	Neurology*	-	01 (UR)	01 (OBC)#	
14.	Orthopaedics	01 (OBC)	-	01(OBC)#	01 (UR)#
15.	Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation			01(OBC)#	
16.	Pulmonary Medicine*	-	01 (SC)	01 (UR)#	01 (SC)
17.	Radio diagnosis	01 (UR)	-	-	01 (ST)
18.	Surgical Gastroenterology*	-	-	01 (OBC)#	
19.	Surgical Oncology*	-	-	01 (UR)#	
20.	Transfusion Medicine and Blood Bank	-	01 (EWS)	-	01 (EWS)
21.	Trauma & Emergency	01 (SC)	-	-	
22.	Urology*	-	-	01 (UR)	
	Total	07	07	11	09
	Grand Total	34 Posts			

*** Super Speciality Discipline # Backlog Posts**

NOTE:
1. 08 posts (including 7 backlog) are reserved for Persons with Disabilities (PwD) on horizontal reservation. The format of application and details of the age limit, essential qualification and experience, pay scales, etc., and the pre-payment link for application fee are available at **http://aiimsnagpur.edu.in/recruitment_notices**. The aspiring applicants satisfying the eligibility criteria in all respect must submit their application **through Google link by 27.06.2022 and by Speed/Registered post** to the address - The Director, AIIMS Nagpur, Plot No. 2, Sector - 20, MIHAN, Nagpur, Maharashtra, Pin - 441108 **by 11.07.2022.**

Director, AIIMS, Nagpur

India to get semi-high speed freight train

The 'Gati Shakti' train will run from December

YUTHIKA BHARGAVA
CHENNAI

To tap the growing freight sector in the country, the Railways is aiming to introduce the country's first semi-high speed freight train by December 2022.

Based on the Vande Bharat platform, the 16-coach 'Gati Shakti' train will be able to run at 160 km/hour, and will be manufactured at the Integral Coach Factory (ICF) in Chennai.

"The design work for these trains has already started. We have also given the order for material...By December this year, we will be able to manufacture two of these trains," ICF General Manager A.K. Agarwal said.

Mr. Agarwal added that the overall target of 25 such trains had been set.

The final number of trains would depend on how the initial trains will be received by market, he said.

New features: A view of a Vande Bharat train cabin under production at the Integral Coach Factory. • R. RAGU

Focus on e-commerce

With these trains, the Railways plans to target the e-commerce and courier parcel segment.

Quoting data from IBEF, an ICF official added that with the turnover of $50 billion in 2020, India had become the 8th largest market for e-commerce.

"India's e-commerce market is expected to reach $111 billion by 2024, $200 billion by 2026 and expected to reach $350 billion by 2030," the official said.

The official added that the Railways has planned to capture the small size parcel shipments by running dedicated high speed freight trains.

Additionally, each train would have two refrigerated wagons – the first and last cars in the train, to ferry perishable items such as fruits and vegetables.

The Railways is aiming to increase its share in freight transportation from the present 27% to 45% by 2030 through better infrastructure and business development plans, according to the National Rail Plan.

Upgraded Vande Bharat trains to have more safety

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Even though the 75 new upgraded Vande Bharat trains, which were announced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in August last year, will be loaded with additional security features and passenger amenities, the manufacturing cost of the train is not expected to rise significantly, according to a senior Railways official.

The new trains will be manufactured at a cost of about ₹110-120 crore each, as against the earlier cost of ₹106 crore each.

PMO project's estimated cost goes up, scope of work enhanced

CPWD cancels old tender, calls for pre-qualification bids

DAMINI NATH
NEW DELHI

Increased scope of work, including additional information and communication technologies (ICT) components, led to the Central Public Works Department (CPWD) cancelling its earlier tender for the construction of an Executive Enclave and re-tendering it this week, officials aware of the development said.

The CPWD had called for bids for the project, which comprises the new Prime Minister's Office, a conference facility called India House and offices of the Cabinet Secretariat and the National Security Council Secretariat, in November 2021. After narrowing down potential bidders through pre-qualification, the CPWD got the lowest bid of ₹1,119.56 crore from Ahluwalia Contracts India Ltd. in March, lower than its estimated cost of ₹1,160.17 crore.

However, instead of awarding the contract, the construction agency on Tuesday began the process of re-tendering by calling for pre-qualification bids again. The project's estimated cost for construction and five-year maintenance contract went up to ₹1,316 crore and potential bidders had till June 8 to apply, according to the bid document.

While the total plinth area of the project was reduced from 87,915 square metres to 85,282 square metres, according to the 2021 and May 24 bid documents respectively, three elements were added to the list of works –38 watch-towers, "active component of ICT" and about seven entry and exit gates "along with complete security systems".

An official said a "make in India" requirement was included in order to encourage the use of domestic products.

The CPWD also tweaked the eligibility criteria for potential bidders, increasing the average gross annual financial turnover from ₹586 crore to ₹658 crore and the minimum net worth of the company from ₹117 crore to ₹131.60 crore.

A CPWD spokesperson declined to comment on the changes in the scope of the project.

IN BRIEF

Bhima Koregaon accused calls off hunger strike

MUMBAI

Bhima Koregaon accused Sagar Gorkhe called off his hunger strike on Friday after member of Legislative Council Kapil Patil met him at Taloja Central Jail. Mr. Gorkhe began his "fast unto death" on May 20, 2022 alleging harassment by the jail authorities. He was arrested by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) on September 7, 2020 from Kondhwa and he has been in jail since then.

13 arrested in Odisha for sex determination

BHUBANESWAR

The Berhampur police in Odisha's Ganjam district have arrested 13 persons on charges of their involvement in an illegal sex selection centre. Determining sex is illegal under Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (PCPNDT) Act, 1994. According to Berhampur police, based on a reliable information regarding an illegal sex determination, the police team raided the house-cum-clinic run by Durga Prasad Nayak.

3 Pak. fishermen held, nine boats seized

AHMEDABAD

In a two-day search operation, the Border Security Force (BSF) apprehended three Pakistani fishermen and seized nine boats from Harami Nala creek area in Kutch, Gujarat. However, nothing suspicious has been found. They have been handed over to the marine police. The water wing of the BSF had launched the special operation during which it seized the fishing boats and three fishermen.

AKRUTI to take roots in Kudankulam

Skill development initiative to help unemployed youth turn into entrepreneurs

P. SUDHAKAR
TARAPUR

The Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited, which is assisting unemployed youth living in 16 village panchayats near the Tarapur Atomic Power Station (TAPS) through its Advanced Knowledge and Rural Technology Implementation (AKRUTI) programme, is all set to launch a similar initiative in the villages surrounding Kudankulam Nuclear Power Project (KKNPP).

The Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, the country's premier multidisciplinary research and development centre under the Department of Atomic Energy, besides identifying newer nuclear power generation techniques, is devising new, user-friendly and cost-effective technologies in the fields of nuclear science, radioisotopes, industry, health and agriculture. These technologies are being taught to the younger generation and the unemployed youth to make them entrepreneurs.

Innovative touch: A worker giving final touches to the foldable solar dryer at AKRUTI, in Boisar. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

One of the AKRUTI's interesting technology transfers is the cost-effective foldable dryer, which can be used for drying fruits, vegetables and fish.

The rectangular or triangle-shaped dryer having steel mesh trays is covered with poly sheets to amplify the atmospheric heat to 200%. "If the temperature outside is 30°C, the heat inside the dryer would be 60°C, which dries fruits and vegetables easily to ensure longer shelf-life," says Ranjit Singh, coordinator, AKRUTI, Boisor.

These foldable solar dryers can also be used for drying fish in a clean and hygienic environment as it has hanging steel wires. Since the KKNPP is surrounded by 13 coastal hamlets, this type of dryer will be a boon to the fishermen.

Site Director, TAPS, Vineet Kumar Sharma, who is also the chairman of AKRUTI, Boisar, says the skill development efforts would benefit the youth.

States told to provide data on migrant workers

SC says details to be given to Centre

A.M. JIGEESH
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday asked the States and Union Territories to furnish particulars of unorganised and migrant workers to the Centre. The court said a further order could be passed based on these details to protect the interests of workers, in a case filed by activists Anjali Bharadwaj, Harsh Mander and Jagdeep Chhokar. The activists moved the court seeking directions to ensure food security and cash transfer for migrant workers who went back to their villages during COVID-19. The next hearing is on July 20.

The Centre, citing the registration of workers on the recently launched e-Shram portal to compile the data of workers, told the Supreme Court that approximately 27.45 crore unorganised labourers have registered their details on the website.

"Now our endeavour should be to consider the larger issue of protecting the interests of the unorganised labourers/migrant workers. The Central government should file a composite report in compliance with all the directions issued by this court in the order dated June 29, 2021. All States shall cooperate and submit all the particulars which are called for," a Bench comprising Justices M.R. Shah and B.V. Nagarathna said.

Assam flood situation improves

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
GUWAHATI

A pause in rainfall over the past 40 hours has helped improve the flood situation in Assam but the receding water took two lives on May 26, according to an official statement.

The drowning of two people, including a child, has taken the flood death toll to 30.

According to the Assam State Disaster Management Authority (ASDMA), of the 5.61 lakh people affected by flood, 66,836 are taking shelter in 295 relief camps and a total of 956 villages were flooded.

A bulletin issued by the Central Water Commission said the Kopili was flowing above the danger mark.

IAS couple's transfer leads to online storm

Twitter sees 'dumping ground' debate

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
GUWAHATI

The transfer of errant IAS couple Sanjeev Khirwar and Rinku Dugga to Ladakh and Arunachal Pradesh has raised a "dumping ground" storm on social media.

The Centre had on Thursday shunted the duo – both 1994-batch IAS officers of the AGMUT cadre – out of Delhi after they had forced athletes at the Thyagraj Stadium to finish their training early in order to take their dog for an evening walk.

AGMUT expands to Arunachal, Goa, Mizoram and the Union Territories.

But the transfer of Mr. Khirwar to Ladakh and Ms. Dugga to Arunachal Pradesh has not gone down well. Many took to Twitter and other social media platforms to ask if the Centre viewed the northernmost and the north-easternmost parts of India as dumping grounds for errant bureaucrats.

"Why shame Arunachal by transferring errant Delhi bureaucrat there? Why pay lip service to North East & then treat area like a dump for your rubbish, MHA?" Trinamool Congress MP Mahua Moitra tweeted, asking Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Pema Khandu and Union Minister Kiren Rijiju to protest.

New Arunachal monkey named after mountain pass

Sela macaque was identified and analysed by a team from the ZSI and the University of Calcutta

RAHUL KARMAKAR
GUWAHATI

A new species of old world monkey recorded from Arunachal Pradesh has been named after a strategic mountain pass at 13,700 ft above sea level.

Sela macaque (*Macaca selai*), the new-to-science primate was identified and analysed by a team of experts from the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) and the University of Calcutta. Their study has been published in the latest edition of *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution*.

Phylogenetics relate to the evolutionary development and diversification of a species or group of organisms.

The phylogenetic analysis revealed that the Sela macaque was geographically separated from the Arunachal macaque (*Macaca munzala*) of Tawang district by Sela. This mountain pass acted as a barrier by restricting the migration of individuals of these two species for approximately two million years, the study said.

Sela is situated between Dirang and Tawang towns in western Arunachal Pradesh.

"We found the new macaque species in western and central Arunachal Pradesh while exploring the Arunachal macaque's wild population for genetic insights. It was found to be genetically different from the other species of monkeys reported from this region," ZSI's Mukesh Thakur, one of the authors of the study said.

Sela macaque

Major cause for crop loss

The study describes the Sela macaque as genetically closer to the Arunachal macaque. The two have some similar physical characteristics such as heavy-build shape and long dorsal body hair.

The zoologists identified some distinct morphological traits to differentiate the two species. While the Sela macaque has a pale face and brown coat, the Arunachal macaque has a dark face and dark brown coat.

"According to the villagers, the Sela macaque is a major cause of crop loss in the West Kameng district of the State," Mr. Thakur said.

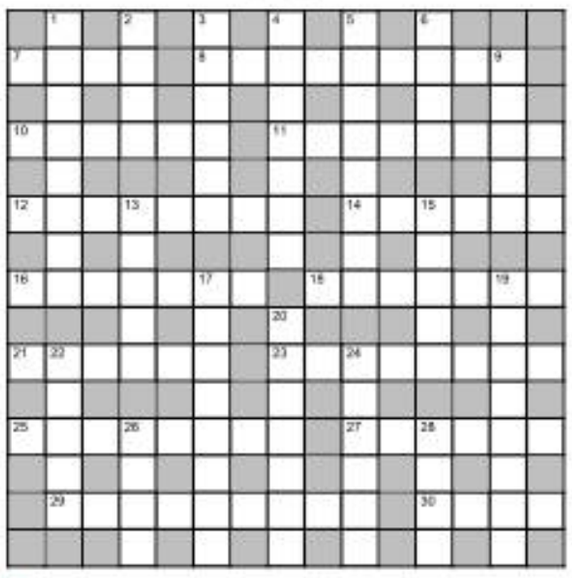
The study says the Sela macaque has a tail longer than the Tibetan macaque, Assamese macaque, Arunachal macaque and the white-cheeked macaque but shorter than the bonnet macaque and toque macaque. Sela macaque belongs to the *sinica* species-group of *Macaca*, but it differs from all other members of this group through attributes such as brown collar hair and muzzle, and the absence of chin whiskers, the study says.

TH CROSSWORD + 13568

(set by Incognito)

Display keystrokes of genius. Type your answers in our online grids. @ https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn

SCAN TO PLAY



ACROSS

7 For starters, rotate on left leg and tumble (4)
8 Choice, including time, for surgical procedure (9)
10 Edited photo with model and heated soup dish (6)
11 State, "After West Indian cricket player gets out of intoxicated state" (6,2)
12 Yes, in Spain.... Called and pilfered (8)
14 Having expended energy, dummies ordered snack (3,3)
16 Human, for example, confiscates couple of consecutive letters in capital (7)
18 Erode tea (3,4)
21 Croon about prince's vault (6)
23 Chinese women travel after consuming Indian noodle dish (4,4)
25 Reduce length of agreement (8)
27/30 Kissing, in absence of Charlie, with love a popular poultry preparation (6,4)
29 Cried, "Fire!", stirring Asian food (5,4)
30 See 27

DOWN

1 Settle, "Part of intestine is visible at last" (8)
2 Hit friends when returning (4)
3 No town may make dumpling (6)
4 In short, debutante returns and dies horribly next to sleeping place (7)
5 Macao bid changed for Kampuchea (8)
6 To some extent, familiarise Pinocchio, for example (4)
9 Sodium and uranium found on outskirts of old city-state in Micronesian island (5)
13 Religious traveller, having arranged journey, joins Islamic leaders (5)
15 Some arrhythmias mean predisposition to disease (5)
17 Misers drag sign in a disorderly manner (8)
19 A vision about including carbon for making aircraft electronics (8)
20 City has developed in central Eurasian region (7)
22 Evidence found in Wipro office (5)
24 Large pyre built for bird (6)
26 Damaged trail bike in absence of biker.... Follow? (4)
28 King is with one daughter's children (4)

SUDOKU

	7	4						
1			5	8				6
						2	1	
2	6			5	8		9	
8			1		9			5
	9		6	4			2	8
	5	7						
9				7	4			2
						9	7	

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

Solution to puzzle 13567

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

6	2	9	4	8	1	7	5	3
8	4	7	2	5	3	1	6	9
3	1	5	7	6	9	8	4	2
7	6	3	5	9	8	2	1	4
5	9	4	3	1	2	6	7	8
2	8	1	6	7	4	3	9	5
1	7	8	9	2	5	4	3	6
4	5	2	1	3	6	9	8	7
9	3	6	8	4	7	5	2	1

FAITH

Eternally linked

As human beings endowed with the senses, mind and intellect, each one is equipped to realise God. In fact, it is the birthright of every human being to strive to know God and become aware of the purpose of one's existence. In the vast repertoire of Tamizh devotional literature, the songs of Tirunavukkarasar unfold his vision of God and make us experience God's nature and His subtle presence in our lives, pointed out Nallur Sri Sa Saravanan in a discourse. He makes us sensitive to His all pervasive presence in creation. One cannot but be overwhelmed by awareness of this truth that establishes His close proximity and oneness with all beings.

That He is always in union with every being at all times is captured by Tirunavukkarasar in the sixth Thirumurai, in the phrase "karuvahi kannu thalai ninran." How is life manifest in creation? It is shown that every living being is linked with God right from the time the foetus begins to evolve in the womb. It is the unseen power of the creator that gives life to all beings, and sustains all existence. The analogy of how a shadow is attached to a being or object can help us to understand inseparable quality of our association with God.

Further, the choice of the term 'kannuthalai" in this phrase alludes to 'seeing,' a function of the primary sense organ, the eye. The eye is an instrument that enables us to perceive the world around us and makes us engage in our daily activities. Basically the act of seeing is naturally linked with light, though it might appear that it happens when the eyelids are open. The wonder is that this 'seeing' is taking place without any conscious effort and any explanation in our lives at all times. So too, 'Kadavul Tanmai' or God's nature is seen in His eternal link with life and all beings.

Li flags warning on economy woes

China's Premier stressed the need 'to stabilise the economy' as growth is coming under pressure

ANANTH KRISHNAN
HONG KONG

A meeting this week convened by China's Premier with 1,00,000 officials from around the country, and described as "unprecedented" by the official media, has underlined growing concern over the state of the world's second-largest economy amid continuing COVID-19 lockdowns.

Second-ranked leader Li Keqiang stressed the need "to stabilise the economy" in the meeting, with growth coming under enormous pressure on account of the country's "zero-COVID" policy that remains in place.

A number of cities and centres of growth, from Beijing to Shanghai, remain under varying degrees of lockdown, while logistics chains have also been affected by the stringent measures. The financial capital, Shanghai, has been under harsh lockdown measures for many weeks although many districts have recently been re-opened.

Few options: Workers resting on a forklift during a COVID-19 lockdown in Shanghai in China on Friday. • AFP

Mr. Li, in the national teleconference with officials from around the country, acknowledged difficulties faced in March and April, with almost all economic indicators, from employment to power consumption and freight transport, trending down.

While calling for a push to growth, no mention was made of rethinking President Xi Jinping's insistence on following a "zero-COVID" policy, which remains firmly in place in the country.

Analysts have said there is little prospect of changing course before the upcoming once-in-five-year Party Congress later this year, when Mr. Xi will begin a third term. The country's "zero-COVID" policy and its relatively low deaths have been flagged as one of Mr. Xi's major legacies, despite the rising economic costs and the rest of the world returning to some form of normalcy.

Easing restrictions, experts have said, would likely bring tens of thousands of deaths at a politically sensitive time. The authorities are also dealing with low vaccination rates among the elderly, although health officials have admitted that focusing resources on "zero-COVID" has further slowed down vaccination efforts already hindered by hesitancy among the older population.

Tall order

The State Council or Cabinet, which Mr. Li heads, has announced close to three dozen measures to spur growth and jobs, including new measures bringing the total tax cuts this year to around $400 billion. However, it faces a tall order amid the ongoing COVID-19 curbs. The financial magazine *Caixin* reported this week that two out of five logistics companies reported losses in April, according to data from the China Federation of Logistics and Purchasing. The value of imported goods transported by the major firms was down 7.6% year-on-year, reflecting the disruptions at ports, while the value of industrial goods transported fell 2.9% in April, the first fall since the March 2020 lockdown following the outbreak in Wuhan.

The property sector is also in strife, with many developers struggling to make debt payments. The government has pressed financial institutions to extend repayment periods, and two major developers, China Evergrande and Sunac, said they had recently been given more time to make payments, *Caixin* reported.

Analysts have said the current curbs are exacting an even greater cost than the first lockdown in 2020, given how the more transmissible Omicron variant has challenged the "zero-COVID" strategy that allowed China to largely escape a major second wave in 2020 and 2021. China also still remains closed to the world, the only major economy that continues to keep in place sweeping travel curbs.

China slams U.S. attempt to smear image

ASSOCIATED PRESS
BEIJING

China on Friday criticised a speech by U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken focused on relations between the world's top two economic powers, saying the U.S. was seeking to smear Beijing's reputation.

In his Thursday address, Mr. Blinken said the administration of President Joe Biden wants to lead the international bloc opposed to Russia's invasion of Ukraine into a broader coalition to counter what it sees as a more serious, long-term threat to global order from China.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Wang Wenbin responded that the U.S. was "essentially spreading disinformation" and "smearing China's domestic and foreign policy."

The aim of the speech was to "suppress China's development and uphold U.S. hegemony," Mr. Wang said. "We strongly deplore and reject this."

Russia targets Donbas, claims siege of key town

Nine killed in shelling of Kharkiv

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
LYSYCHANSK

Russian troops were moving in on the strategic city of Severodonetsk Friday in a relentless offensive to control Ukraine's eastern Donbas region, bombing residential areas and claiming the capture of a key town.

At least nine persons were killed a day earlier in shelling of Kharkiv, Ukraine's second-largest city, raising fears that Russia had not lost interest in the northeastern hub even after Ukraine managed to take back control.

Around 10 persons were also killed in Russian strikes on a military facility in the central Ukrainian city of Dnipro, well away from the frontline of the offensive, the regional head of the national guard said.

Russian forces were closing in on several cities in the region including strategically located Severodonetsk and Lysychansk, which stand on the crucial route to Ukraine's eastern administrative centre in Kramatorsk.

Firefighting under progress at a gypsum manufacturing plant in Donbas on Friday.

Lyman captured

Three months after Russia launched its invasion on February 24, Moscow is focusing on the east of Ukraine after failing in its initial ambition to capture Kyiv.

Pro-Russian separatists said they had captured the town of Lyman that lies between Severodonetsk and Kramatorsk and is on the road leading to the key cities that are still under Kyiv's control.

Texas killings: Official admits to mistake

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
UVALDE

The Texas head of public safety said on Friday that in "hindsight" it was the wrong decision for the police not to immediately breach the Uvalde classroom where a gunman ultimately shot dead 19 children and two teachers.

"From the benefit of hindsight... it was the wrong decision, period," Texas Department of Public Safety director Steven McCraw told a news conference at which he was assailed by questions over why police waited for tactical backup before going in.

"From what we know, we believe there should have been an entry as soon as you can," Mr. McCraw said, adding: "If I thought it would help, I'd apologise."

The police in the Texas town have come under angry criticism over why it took an hour to neutralise the gunman – who was barricaded inside a classroom at Robb Elementary School.

BRICS group may soon begin expansion process, says China

Foreign Ministers have reached consensus on the process

ANANTH KRISHNAN
HONG KONG

The Brazil-Russia-India-China-South Africa (BRICS) grouping may for the first time begin an expansion process to include new developing country members, the Chinese government said on Friday.

China, which is the BRICS chair for this year, said the recently held meeting of BRICS Foreign Ministers "reached consensus on the BRICS expansion process".

"China will work on BRICS-related parties to continue to have in-depth discussions on BRICS expansion and determine the standards and procedures for that on the basis of consensus. We look forward to more like-minded partners joining the big family of BRICS," Foreign Ministry spokesperson Wang Wenbin said. The May 19 BRICS Foreign Ministers' virtual meeting this year also invited Foreign Ministers of Argentina, Egypt, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Nigeria, Senegal and Thailand to attend.

Wang Wenbin

Enhancing cooperation

Both China and Russia have backed BRICS expansion, seeing the grouping as a useful platform to broaden their voice amid their tensions with the West.

"Facing the once-in-a-century changes and pandemic which are compounded by international hotspot issues," Mr. Wang said, "BRICS countries agree that it is important to enhance cooperation with other emerging markets and developing countries, further improve the representation of BRICS, make BRICS' voice in major international and regional issues more widely heard, join hands to meet challenges, and uphold the common interests and development space of emerging markets and developing countries."

Argentina, Indonesia and Egypt are among countries that have previously indicated their interest in joining the grouping. The "BRICS Plus" format was launched as a way for the five countries to broaden their outreach with other developing countries. The BRICS-backed New Development Bank (NDB), based in Shanghai, has already inducted new members, with Bangladesh and the UAE joining last year, and Egypt and Uruguay approved to join the financial institution.

'Leading IS member held in Istanbul'

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
ISTANBUL

A leading member of the Islamic State group has been arrested in Turkey, a top official said on Friday, refusing to confirm that it was the jihadist group's leader.

Turkey had "no clear information" yet whether the suspect was – as media reports said – IS leader Abu Hassan al-Hashimi al-Qurashi, the official said. But a member from "the leadership cadres" was arrested last week, the source said.

Australia grants Tamil family from Sri Lanka 'bridging visas'

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
SYDNEY

Australia's new centre-left government relaxed immigration restrictions on an asylum-seeking Tamil family on Friday.

Jim Chalmers, the acting Home Affairs Minister, said he had granted the Murugappan family temporary "bridging visas" allowing them to stay lawfully in Australia while seeking refugee status.

The move enables the family to return if they wish to Biloela – the town where they had settled, which has been waging a campaign to let them remain in the country.

Priya and Nades Murugappan, from Sri Lanka, arrived in Australia by boat separately in 2012 and 2013. Their daughters were born in Australia but do not hold citizenship.

The country's hardline immigration stance bans anyone who arrives by boat without authorisation from staying permanently.

The family gained national prominence when they were sent to a remote detention centrein 2019. In mid-2021, after their youngest daughter fell ill, and public pressure from the vocal "Home to Bilo" campaign grew, the family was allowed to move to "community detention".

The arrangement meant they were no longer confined but could not work or choose where they lived. The Murugappans are still seeking refugee status.

नगर विकास न्यास, बीकानेर
Near Collector Office, Bikaner (Rajasthan) Fax :- 91-151-2226012, Phone :- 91-151-2226012, 91-151-2226013
E-Mail Address:- uitbikaner@yahoo.co.in / Website:- urban.rajasthan.gov.in/uitbikaner

क्रमांक:–नविन्या/बीका/2022–23/5134 दिनांक: 19.05.2022

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Uit Bikaner invites Expression of interest (EOI) form eligible entities for Operation and Maintance, of Adventure wing, Constructed by UIT in Bhraman Path.

The Developer shall be free to implement their own concepts taking in to consideration all the applicants norms and Regulation Rajiv Gupta Executive Engineer, Bikaner can be contacted (Mo. No. 9413311610) for site visit with prior intimation.

Interested parties may download expression of Interest (EOI) Document form www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in and **urban.rajasthan.gov.in/uit** Bikaner form ..... Please furnish demand Draft/pay order for Rs. 10,000/- towards "EOI Processing fee" for project in favor of Secretary, Urban Improvement Trust, Bikaner, Along with EOI Document before 11:00 AM on or before 26.06.2021. In sealed envelope containing hard soft copy. For any clarification applicants may seek through mail **uitbikaner@yahoo.co.in.**

The submitted document will be evaluated and firms found eligible will be invited to make a presentation on their capabilities. The Eligible firms will be shortlisted for further tender process.

NIB No. - ITB2223A0022 / UBN No. ITB2223WSOB00047

Samwad/C/2451/2022-23 Executive Engineer

RAJASTHAN RAJYA VIDYUT PRASARAN NIGAM LTD.

Notice Inviting Bid

Bids for Supply & Installation work of Non LED Type bird flight diverters (BFD) on 132/220 KV transmission lines (Falling under GIB arc area) on Turnkey basis under BN 9018002203 are invited from interested bidders up to 06.00 PM (time) 14.06.2022 (date). Other Particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal **(http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in** and **http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in)** of the state, and **www.energy.rajasthan.gov.in/rvpnl.**

Departmental website. **UBN No.: VPN2223WLOB00382** **Superintending Engineer**
Raj.Samwad/C/22/2509 **RRVPN/TR-5466/2022** **(Contract-I), Jaipur**

ANDHRA PRADESH POWER GENERATION CORPORATION LIMITED
VIDYUTH SOUDHA : VIJAYAWADA

NIT No. 610001017/ HPC & HP /APGENCO / 2022

APGENCO invites tender for **"Design, Engineering,Manufacture, Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Water Mist Fire Protection System for 7X110 MW Generators at Srisailam Right Bank Power House"** through APGENCO e-procurement platform.

Estimated value of Work: Rs. 2,25,00,000/-

Bid Schedule available Date & Time : From 26.05.2022 at 17.00 Hrs onwards
Bid Submission Closing Date & Time : up to 17.00 Hrs on 21.06.2022.
For further details visit website: **www.apgenco.gov.in** or **https://etender.apgenco.gov.in/irj/portal**

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CORRIGENDUM

Tender No.	Material Description	Existing	Amended
2022008	Effluent Filter Cake	01.06.2022	16.06.2022

The due date of the tender has been changed as above. The same will be available in the revised tender summary at website : **www.tnpl.com.**
Corrigendum if any will be issued in TNPL website only.

DIPR/2538/Tender/2022 *TNPL - Maker of bagasse based eco-friendly Paper*

"சேறுனை கடந்து கதந்தில் அடந்தோம், சுறுனை புதிது சரிந்தில் படைப்போம்."

Office of Project Director
Rajasthan Urban Infrastructure Development Project
(A unit of RUDSICO)
AVS Building, Jawahar Circle, JLN Marg, Jaipur - 302017
Tel No.: 0141-2721966, Fax No.: 0141-2721919
Email: mail.ruidp@rajasthan.gov.in; web site: www.ruidp.rajasthan.gov.in

Invitation for Bids No: RSTDSP/OCB/NTL/22

Rajasthan Secondary Towns Development Sector Project (RSTDSP) - Additional Financing

RSTDSP/DNG-SGW/WS-WW/01: Cluster package of 2 towns in 2 Lots:

I. **Lot 1 - RSTDSP/DNG /WS-WW/01: -** "Construction of Works of Water Supply Production and Distribution Network Improvements with house service connections for nonrevenue water reduction and continuous water supply and Providing Sewer Network with House connections, and construction of Sewage Treatment Plant & Sewage Pumping Station and all allied Works and operation services of the entire system for 10 years at Dungarpur".

II. **Lot 2 - RSTDSP/SGW/WS-WW/01: -** "Construction of Works of Water Supply Production and Distribution Network Improvements with house service connections for nonrevenue water reduction and continuous water supply and Providing Sewer Network with House connections, and construction of Sewage Treatment Plant & Sewage Pumping Station and all allied Works and operation services of the entire system for 10 years at Sagwara (Dungarpur)".

1. Rajasthan Urban Infrastructure Development Project (RUIDP) invites online bids on e-proc **website** from eligible bidders for the contract package named above. Online bidding is invited under Open Competitive Bidding (OCB) - National procedure of ADB which is open to all bidders from eligible source countries of ADB.
2. Bid document would be available at e proc website **www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in** starting from **20th May, 2022.** Deadline for bid submission is **15:00 hours on 22nd June, 2022**
3. Pre-bid Meeting will be held at **15:00 hours on 30th May, 2022.** All the prospective bidders are advised to participate in the Pre-bid meeting.
4. Any addendum, clarification to the bidder's queries and corrigendum etc. will be published on the e-proc web sites and will not be published in Newspapers.
5. Bidders may contact Additional Project Director, RUIDP (0141-2548404), Jaipur for any information on bidding process.

NIB Code : UID2223A0007 & UBN - UID2223WSOB00007
Raj.Samwad/C/22/2482 **Project Director, RUIDP**

BANGALORE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
T. Chowdaiah Road, Kumara Park West, Bengaluru - 560 020

No. BDA/E.E-South/work_TN_01/2022-23 Date: 27.05.2022

INVITATION FOR TENDER

(Through GoK e-Procurement platform https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in)

Item rate tenders are invited through GoK e-Procurement platform for the following works by the Executive Engineer, South Division BDA, BDA Complex, BSK 2nd Stage, Bengaluru - 70 on behalf of the Commissioner, BDA, Bengaluru from contractor registered as Class-1 Contractor or equivalent KPWD/BDA/NH/MES/Railways. **Name of the work: Development and Infrastructure works to 03 to 11 Blocks and Further Extension of 4th 'T', 4th 'H' Blocks, 80 Feet & 100 Feet roads of Banashankari 6th Stage in Yeswanthapura and Bengaluru South Constituencies. Indent No.: BDA/2022-23/RD/WORK_INDENT No. 1484. Approx. cost put to tender: Rs.9950.00 Lakhs.**

For further details, please log on to **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** or call e-Procurement Help desk on 080-22371090 / 22340060.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, South Division, BDA, Bengaluru

BDA/PRO/TN/02/2022-23

MARKET WATCH

	27-05-2022	% CHANGE
Sensex	54,885	1.17
US Dollar	77.58	0.04
Gold	50,939	0.53
Brent oil	117.83	0.60

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Ports	703.10	1.60
Apollo Hosp	3861.75	198.95
Asian Paints	2834.85	-5.30
Axis Bank	688.30	5.05
Bajaj Auto	3833.05	-24.30
Bajaj Finserv	12758.40	280.65
Bajaj Finance	5893.50	175.70
Bharti Airtel	684.40	-9.25
BPCL	322.35	-2.00
Britannia Ind	3557.60	-3.35
Cipla	966.35	1.80
Coal India	181.85	-1.40
Divis Lab	3514.70	66.00
Dr Reddys Lab	4190.50	86.35
Eicher Motors	2742.10	17.00
Grasim Ind	1396.70	4.15
HCL Tech	1003.90	23.20
HDFC	2330.40	42.65
HDFC Bank	1392.05	25.35
HDFC Life	598.10	20.05
Hero MotoCorp	2719.80	83.35
Hindalco	409.15	1.30
Hind Unilever	2330.60	50.40
ICICI Bank	739.80	11.30
Indusind Bank	925.40	27.80
Infosys	1461.35	37.40
ITC	269.20	2.50
JSW Steel	548.40	-3.30
Kotak Bank	1946.20	37.55
L&T	1600.30	35.75
M&M	952.85	23.05
Maruti Suzuki	7842.95	137.95
Nestle India Ltd.	17641.05	-11.45
NTPC	150.45	-3.70
ONGC	143.80	-8.10
PowerGrid Corp	224.70	-2.50
Reliance Ind	2575.10	-12.00
SBI Life	1121.10	15.75
State Bank	468.95	0.05
Shree Cement	21927.05	235.85
Sun Pharma	903.90	3.95
Tata Consumer Products Ltd	725.45	3.20
Tata Motors	429.60	8.95
Tata Steel	1043.50	-8.50
TCS	3261.30	34.35
Tech Mahindra	1123.25	44.65
Titan	2149.20	7.25
UltraTech Cement	5948.00	73.75
UPL	756.60	9.15
Wipro	466.95	13.60

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on May 27

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	77.37	77.69
Euro	82.90	83.24
British Pound	97.59	97.99
Japanese Yen (100)	60.88	61.13
Chinese Yuan	11.53	11.58
Swiss Franc	80.67	81.04
Singapore Dollar	56.46	56.70
Canadian Dollar	60.70	60.98
Malaysian Ringitt	17.66	17.74
Australian Dollar	55.26	55.49

Source: Indian Bank

TVS Motor rolls out TVS HLX variants in Kenya

CHENNAI

TVS Motor Company on Friday introduced limited edition TVS HLX 125 Gold and TVS HLX 150 Gold motorcycles in Kenya.

RBI warns banks on restructured loans

Flags possibility of increased slippages from sectors that have been more exposed to the pandemic

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has cautioned lenders to be wary of the risk of increased 'slippages' on advances that were restructured during the COVID-19 pandemic, especially as the economy recovers from the public health crisis's impact.

"The banking sector has witnessed improved financial parameters despite the COVID-19 pandemic," the RBI observed in its annual report released on Friday. "There is, however, a need to be watchful of the credit behaviour of the restructured advances and possibility of increased slippages arising from sectors that were relatively more exposed to the pandemic," the RBI warned.

"With the unwinding of support measures, some of the restructured accounts might face solvency concerns, with the impact on banks' balance sheets becoming clearer in the upcoming quarters. Prudence warrants proactive recognition of any non-viable accounts to activate timely resolution," the RBI added.

On guard: Care needs to be taken by lenders to ensure that fresh slippages are arrested, says RBI. •REUTERS

Going forward, as the economy recovers and credit demand rises, banks would need to focus on supporting credit growth while being vigilant of the evolving risks.

"Care needs to be taken to ensure that fresh slippages are arrested, and banks' balance sheets are strengthened to avoid future build-up of stress," it emphasised.

Highlighting that the setting up of the National Asset Reconstruction Company would help in the resolution of large value, legacy stressed assets, and serve as a time-efficient mechanism for reviving investor interest in primary and secondary markets for stressed assets, the RBI said going forward, continued commitment, professionalism and transparency would help in making the exercise cost- and time-effective.

NBFCs and urban cooperative banks would also have to be mindful of frailties and ensure robust asset-liability management, apart from improving the quality of their credit portfolios.

"Considering the significant share of funding absorbed by NBFCs... continued attention to their financial health is warranted from the viewpoint of financial stability," the RBI observed. "In order to further strengthen the regulatory and supervisory framework, several measures are expected to be put in place for banks and NBFCs during 2022-23," it added.

'Recovery underway'

While 2021-22 had brought many challenges, an economic recovery was underway, notwithstanding the headwinds, the RBI said.

"The future path of growth will be conditioned by addressing supply side bottlenecks, calibrating monetary policy to bring inflation within the target while supporting growth and targeted fiscal policy support to aggregate demand, especially by boosting capital spending," the central bank added.

Indian oil firms see 8 bn roubles stuck in Russia

'Will get the funds after conflict ends'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

As much as 8 billion roubles (about ₹1,000 crore) of dividend income belonging to Indian oil firms is stuck in Russia after the Putin administration clamped down on dollar repatriation, officials said on Friday.

Indian state oil firms have invested $5.46 billion in buying stakes in four different assets in Russia. These include a 49.9% stake in Vankorneft oil and gas field and another 29.9% in TAAS-Yuryakh Neftegazodobycha fields. They get dividends on profits made by the operating consortium from selling oil and gas produced from the fields.

"We had been regularly getting our dividend income from the projects but since the war in Ukraine led to volatility in foreign exchange rates, the Russian government has put restrictions on repatriation of dollars from that country," said Harish Madhav, director (Finance), Oil India Ltd., which is one of the partners in the fields.

"About 8 billion roubles of dividend income belonging to the Indian consortium is left (in Russia)," he said.

The Indian firms are confident of getting the money once the conflict ends.

Decimal Point Analytics raises ₹35 cr.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

Decimal Point Analytics (DPA) Pvt. Ltd., which provides data analytics products and services to clients including hedge funds, investment banks, venture capital and private equity firms said it had raised ₹35 crore in equity capital from a large global institutional investor.

The artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning-based data analytics firm declined to disclose the extent of stake dilution.

DPA plans to develop and market SaaS-based products through its wholly owned subsidiary, DPA Smart Cloud, at the IFSC in Gujarat's Gift City, the company said.

Google said to mull joining India's ONDC

'Consumer player will aid adoption'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

Google is in talks with the Indian government to integrate its shopping services with the country's open e-commerce network ONDC, two sources familiar with the matter told Reuters.

India soft-launched its Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) last month as the Centre tries to end the dominance of U.S. firms Amazon.com and Walmart in the fast-growing e-commerce market.

The government estimates the Indian e-commerce market was worth more than $55 billion in gross merchandise value in 2021 and will grow to $350 billion by the end of this decade. ONDC will need a consumer player to drive adoption, said Caesar Sengupta, the CEO of start-up Arbo Works who played a critical role in establishing Google Pay in India.

"UPI had only 17 million transactions per month before Google Pay launched and the graph thereafter is a hockey stick," he observed.

City Union Bank Q4 net surges 88%

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHENNAI

Private sector lender City Union Bank (CUB) on Friday reported fourth-quarter standalone net profit jumped 88% from a year earlier to ₹209 crore.

Total income in the three months ended March rose to ₹1,253 crore, from ₹1,135 crore.

Net interest income rose to ₹501 crore, from ₹429 crore, CUB said in a filing.

Net interest margin increased to 4.01% from 3.72%, the bank said in a presentation.

Gross non-performing assets declined to 4.70% from 5.11%, and net NPA eased to 2.95% from 2.97%.

The board declared a dividend of ₹1 per share.

ICL posts ₹24-cr. Q4 loss as coal costs rise fivefold

Firm to raise prices from June 1: MD

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHENNAI

The India Cements Ltd. (ICL) has reported a standalone net loss of ₹24 crore for the fourth quarter ended March, compared with a profit of ₹72 crore in the year-earlier period, hurt by an almost fivefold increase in the prices of imported coal and loss of volume.

"Fourth quarter was a fighting quarter," vice chairman and managing director N. Srinivasan said on Friday.

"Coal, which we were importing, went up from $60 per tonne to almost $300 per tonne," he said.

"We could do nothing but sit and watch. I wanted to increase the price, but it was not possible."

N. Srinivasan

Besides, he said, the sales volumes in the south were impacted by the pandemic and unseasonal rains.

"I have decided to increase the price per bag on June 1, June 15 and July 1 by ₹20, ₹15 and ₹20 respectively," he said.

The company's board of directors declared a dividend of ₹1 a share.

OIL Q4 net at record high on oil price surge

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

Oil India Ltd. (OIL) on Friday reported its highest-ever quarterly net profit in the three months to March on high refining margins.

Net profit at ₹1,630.01 crore in January-March was almost double the ₹847.56-crore profit a year earlier, OIL Director (Finance) Harish Madhav told reporters.

The firm realised $98.08 for every barrel of crude oil produced and sold compared with $59.80 a year earlier. For FY22 as well, OIL reported its highest-ever profit of ₹3,887.31 crore, up from ₹1,741.59 crore. Turnover rose 27% in the quarter ended March to ₹4,972.91 crore and by 55% in FY22 to ₹16,427.65 crore.

SPORT

LIVE TELECAST

NBA: Sports 18, Voot Select, Vh1, MTV & Jio TV, 6 a.m.
Roland Garros 2022: Sony Ten 2 & 3 (SD & HD) & Sony LIV, 1.30 p.m. onwards
Hockey: Asia Cup 2022, SS Select 2 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 2.30 p.m. onwards
Women's T20 Challenge: Final, Star Sports 1 & 2 SD & HD) & Hotstar, 7.30 p.m.
Formula One: Monaco GP (Qualifying), SS Select 1 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 7.30 p.m.
Champions League: Final, Sony Ten 2 & 3 (SD & HD) & Sony LIV, 12.30 a.m. (Sunday)

IN BRIEF

Klay Thompson puts Warriors in NBA Finals

SAN FRANCISCO

Klay Thompson 32 points as Golden State Warriors advanced to the NBA Finals for the sixth time in eight seasons by defeating Dallas 120-110 on Thursday. The Warriors, who won the Western Conference finals 4-1, will seek a first title since 2018 in June's showdown against either Boston Celtics or Miami Heat. AFP

Fireworks in store as Supernovas meets Velocity

Both sides have big-hitters who will be keen to light up the summit clash

T20 CHALLENGE

P.K. AJITH KUMAR
PUNE

Batting records at the Women's T20 Challenge have been rewritten a few times over this week. The highest PowerPlay score, the highest total, the fastest fifty... statisticians have been kept busy.

More fireworks could be in store for the final, to be played between Supernovas and Velocity, at the MCA Stadium on Saturday. Both sides boast some exciting batters.

None has caused as much excitement here as Kiran Navgire. Her 34-ball 69 on Thursday was an astonishing maiden knock at this level.

It was an unforgettable homecoming for her. Though she plays for Nagaland, she used to play here; she is from the neighbouring Solapur district.

Turning heads: Kiran came up with a swashbuckling knock against Trailblazers. •SPORTZPICS/IPL

The tournament has been an excellent one so far. We are looking forward to a good final, too
HARMANPREET KAUR
Supernovas skipper

The bowlers and the batters have been doing their role well. We are enjoying ourselves
DEEPTI SHARMA
Captain, Velocity

It was her innings that took Velocity to the final. She certainly would have been one of the players most discussed at Supernovas' team meetings ahead of the final.

There is much more to Velocity's batting than Kiran, though. The hard-hitting opener Shafali Varma and the classy Laura Wolvaardt have been amongst runs, too. Then there are the likes of Yastika Bhatia, Deepti Sharma and Sneh Rana as well.

The Supernovas batting line-up also promises plenty of sixes and fours. Deandra Dottin and captain Harmanpreet Kaur are among the biggest hitters in the women's game and they are backed up by Priya Punia, Harleen Deol, Sune Luus, Taniya Bhatia and Pooja Vastrakar.

Pooja is one of Supernovas' main bowlers as well. Spinners Sophie Ecclestone and Alana King have looked good in patches.

Seamer Kate Cross has been impressive for Velocity, but she needs better support from the rest of the attack.

India eyes revenge against Japan

The Sardar-coached side needs to show more discipline

ASIA CUP

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
JAKARTA

A rejuvenated Indian men's hockey team will be keen to put up a much-improved performance when it takes on Japan in its first Super 4 match of the Asia Cup here on Saturday.

Despite facing a below-par Indonesia in its final group league game, the young side must be lauded for being able to score a whopping 16 goals.

It was one more than what India required to put a final nail in Pakistan's World Cup qualification hopes.

Both India and Pakistan finished on four points in Pool A behind Japan, but the defending champion qualified for the next round due to better goal difference (+1).

But it was not a smooth sailing for India in the first two matches.

On the prowl: The Indians ran riot in the match against Indonesia. •FIH

India fielded an inexperienced team for the tournament to gain much-needed experience.

The young boys did not have the best of starts drawing 1-1 with Pakistan before losing 2-5 to Japan, which pushed them on the brink of elimination.

Revenge will be high on India's agenda having lost to the Japanese in the pool stages. But it would be easier said than done as the nimble-footed Japanese rely mostly on counter attacks to surprise their opponents. To get the better of Japan, India will have to produce a more disciplined performance.

In other Super 4 stage match, South Korea will take on Malaysia.

India's Super 4 schedule:
May 28: vs Japan; **May 29:** vs Malaysia; **May 31:** vs Korea (all matches at 5 p.m. IST).

SL wins series as Asitha runs through Bangladesh

The hosts bundled out for 169

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
DHAKA

Asitha Fernando finished with a career-best six for 51 as Sri Lanka thrashed host Bangladesh by 10 wickets in the second Test on Friday to win the series 1-0.

The visitors bundled out Bangladesh for 169 in its second innings.

Play had resumed on the final day with the host at 34 for four and Sri Lanka upped the pressure when Kasun Rajitha bowled Mushfiqur Rahim for 23.

The scores:

Bangladesh 365 & 169 in 55.3 overs (Liton Das 52, Shakib Al Hasan 58, Fernando 6/51) lost to Sri Lanka 506 & 29 for no loss in 3 overs). **MoM:** Asitha Fernando; **MoS:** Mathews.

Asitha... all pumped up. •AFP

Drawn games slow down the Indians

Abdusattorov takes the lead

CHESS

SPORTS BUREAU

All the leading Indians were held to draws as Uzbek talent and World rapid champion Nodirbek Abdusattorov (six points) emerged as the leader after seven rounds of the Sharjah Masters chess on Friday.

With two rounds to go, Abhijeet Gupta (5) continues to lead the 14-player Indian pack.

The results (involving Indians): Seventh round: Haik Martirosyan (Arm, 5) drew with Abhijeet Gupta (4.5); D. Gukesh (4.5) drew with Mustafa Yilmaz (Tur, 5); Pavel Ponkratov (FIDE, 4.5) drew with Arjun Erigaisi (4.5); Abhimanyu Puranik (4) drew with Gabriel Sargissian (Arm, 4); S. L. Narayanan (4) drew with Aram Hakobyan (Arm, 4); S. P. Sethuraman (4) drew with Jules Moussard (Fra, 4); Aravindh Chithambaram (4) drew with Nijat Abasov (Aze, 4); Raunak Sadhwani (3.5) lost to Emre Can (Tur, 4.5); Misratdin Iskandarov (Aze, 4.5) bt B. Adhiban (3.5); Sergei Azarov (Blr, 3) lost to Nihal Sarin (4); Surya Shekhar Ganguly (3) lost to Artur Davtyan (Arm, 4); Aryan Chopra (4) bt Mert Erdogdu (Tur, 3); Sankalp Gupta (4) bt Robert Hovhannisyan (Arm, 3); Aditya Mittal (3) lost to Daniil Yuffa (Esp, 4).

Miracle primed to deliver in Speaker's Cup

BENGALURU: Miracle, who has been well prepared, is expected to score in the Speaker's Cup (1,600m), the feature event of the races to be held here on Saturday (May 28).

False rails (width about 4m from 1,600m to the winning post) will be in position.

1 NEW MARKET PLATE (1,600m), rated 00 to 25, 2-00 p.m.: 1. Drums Of War (11) Md. Akram 62.5, 2. Handsome Mover (8) A. Qureshi 62.5, 3. Rhapsody In Green (4) Trevor 62.5, 4. Shan E Azeem (2) J.H. Arul 61.5, 5. Regal Melody (9) P. Surya 61, 6. Russian Romance (6) K. Nazil 59.5, 7. Commandpost (–) (–) 59, 8. Striking Melody (7) S. Saqlain 59, 9. Southernaristocrat (3) L.A. Rozario 58.5, 10. Lightning Flame (10) Bhawani Singh 58, 11. Zehnaseeb (1) Rayan 57.5 and 12. Fierce Fighter (5) Nazerul 55.

1. RHAPSODY IN GREEN, 2. DRUMS OF WAR, 3. SHAN E AZEEM

2 DIABLO PLATE (DIV. II), (1,200m), rated 20 to 45, 2-30: 1. Millbrook (4) S. John 60, 2. Silver Swift (3) Gaurav Singh 59, 3. Air Blast (1) J.H. Arul 58, 4. Striking Point (5) Darshan 57.5, 5. Lauterbrunnen (9) Rajesh Kumar 56, 6. Tenali (6) S. Shareef 55.5, 7. The King N I (10) Khurshad Alam 54.5, 8. Amazing Luck (2) Salman Khan 53.5, 9. Memorable Time (8) Vinod Shinde 53 and 10. Country's Jewel (7) P. Surya 52.5.

1. AIR BLAST, 2. TENALI, 3. MILLBROOK

3 SANTORINI STAR PLATE (1,600m), rated 20 to 45, 4-y-o & over, 3-00: 1. Scribbling Hopper (12) R. Rupesh 60, 2. Windstorm (4) Darshan 59, 3. Ombudsman (2) Abhay Singh 58, 4. Knotty City (11) Ashhad Asbar 57, 5. Je Ne Sais Quoi (5) Gaurav Singh 56.5, 6. Striking Memory (8) G. Vivek 56.5, 7. Belvedere (1) Akshay K 56, 8. Rorito (6) Mark 55.5, 9. Aircraft (3) Dasrat Singh 53.5, 10. Elite Crown (9) Vishal Bunde 51.5, 11. Exalted Dream (7) Hindu Singh 50.5 and 12. Only You (10) Vinod Shinde 50.

1. KNOTTY CITY, 2. AIRCRAFT, 3. BELVEDERE

4 SOUTHERN EMPIRE PLATE (1,400m), maiden 3-y-o only, (Terms), 3-30: 1. Adjustment (5) Sandesh 56, 2. Roudy (6) Richard Oliver 56, 3. Aguila (3) P.S. Chouhan 54.5, 4. Konabos (7) Akshay K 54.5, 5. Mirra (4) Suraj 54.5, 6. Place Vendome (8) Trevor 54.5, 7. Sheer Bliss (1) Vinod Shinde 54.5 and 8. Tough Cookie (2) Anjar Alam 54.5.

1. MIRRA, 2. PLACE VENDOME, 3. ROUDY

5 LT. COL. GAUNT MEMORIAL TROPHY (1,400m), rated 40 to 65, 4-00: 1. Lucky Chance (1) Tousif Khan 61, 2. Jack Ryan (11) Rayan 60.5, 3. Scruples (10) Trevor 59, 4. Analect (8) J.H. Arul 55, 5. Michigan Melody (9) Khurshad Alam 55, 6. Keystone (4) K. Nazil 54, 7. Cameleons Image (6) Nazerul 53.5, 8. Capable (7) P. Siddaraju 52.5, 9. N R I Superpower (12) Akshay K 52, 10. King's Ransom (2) P.S. Chouhan 51, 11. Arthur (3) Ashhad Asbar 50 and 12. Bangor On Dee (5) Afroz Khan 50.

1. KING'S RANSOM, 2. SCRUPLES, 3. ANALECT

6 SPEAKER'S CUP (1,600m), rated 60 to 85, 4-30: 1. Miracle (2) P.S. Chouhan 61, 2. Lake Tahoe (5) Richard Oliver 58.5, 3. Antibes (3) Gaurav Singh 55, 4. Mountain Lion (1) Dashrat Singh 53.5, 5. All Attractive (4) P.P. Dhebe 52 and 6. Pride's Angel (6) Sandesh 52.

1. MIRACLE, 2. ALL ATTRACTIVE

7 MYSTIC MEMORY PLATE (1,6000m), rated 40 to 65, 4-y-o & over, 5-00: 1. Tactical Command (6) R. Rupesh 60, 2. Etosha (5) Zervan 59.5, 3. Schafenberg (2) Indrajeet Singh 57, 4. Pink Jasmine (1) Sandesh 56.5, 5. Southern Dynasty (7) Bhawani Singh 56.5, 6. Grey Channel (3) Ashhad Asbar 56, 7. Siege Perilous (4) Akshay K 56 and 8. Winmylove (8) Gaurav Singh 55.5.

1. SIEGE PERILOUS, 2. ETOSHA, 3. WINMYLOVE

8 DIABLO PLATE (DIV. I), (1,200m), rated 20 to 45, 5-30: 1. Benediction (8) L.A. Rozario 60, 2. Mitsuro (1) J.H. Arul 59.5, 3. Ocean Dunes (7) Mudassar 59, 4. Shabelle (6) Akshay K 59, 5. Flying Quest (4) Salman Khan 58.5, 6. Star Admiral (2) Vishal Bunde 56.5 7. Ultimate Striker (10) Darshan 56, 8. Unique Style (5) S. Saqlain 56, 9. Ooh La LA (11) D. Patel 54, 10. Stunning Beauty (3) Arvind Kumar 52.5 and 11. Artiana (9) G. Vivek 51.

1. SHABELLE, 2. FLYING QUEST, 3. MITSURO

Day's best: **MIRACLE**
Double: **KING'S RANSOM – SHABELLE**
Jkt: 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8; Tr (i): 3, 4 and 5; (ii): 6, 7 and 8.

Classy Buttler powers Royals into the final; heartbreak for RCB

Prasidh and McCoy strike thrice each to put the brakes on the Royal Challengers innings; Patidar shines again with a half-century but his effort goes in vain

IPL 2022

ASHWIN ACHAL
AHMEDABAD

Rajasthan Royals shut out a sloppy Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) to enter the IPL final here.

In the Qualifier 2 at the Narendra Modi Stadium on Friday, Rajasthan cruised from start to finish. A tidy bowling performance kept RCB down to 157 for eight, before a blistering unbeaten 106 (60b, 10x4, 6x6) from opener Jos Buttler took Rajasthan home with 11 balls and seven wickets to spare.

The Englishman recorded his fourth century of the season to underline his status as the best batter of this edition.

RCB's poor day was symbolised by a clumsy effort by wicketkeeper Dinesh Karthik, who fluffed an easy caught-behind chance when Buttler was on 66. RCB went from deflated to defeated as the game slipped away.

Yashasvi Jaiswal (21, 13b, 1x4, 2x6) and Buttler gave Rajasthan the perfect start, putting on a 61-run opening stand in 5.1 overs. RCB pacer Mohammed Siraj could not stop the flow of runs, conceding 31 runs in his two overs. Spinners Glenn Maxwell and Shahbaz Ahmed were brought in to bowl in the PowerPlay, but they did not have much impact.

Captain Sanju Samson (23, 21b, 1x4, 2x6) played his part, guiding Rajasthan closer to victory.

After being put in, RCB was restricted to a sub-par total. Prasidh Krishna and Obed McCoy picked three wickets each as RCB struggled to find momentum.

Prasidh struck in his first over, getting Virat Kohli (7) to edge a ball outside off. Rajat Patidar, who scored a superb century in the previous encounter, looked in good touch once again.

On 13, Patidar was offered a life by Riyan Parag, who dropped a sitter at point. Patidar brought up his fifty with a straight six off R. Ashwin. The spinner came back strongly, enticing Patidar to slam a wide delivery to long-off.

Maxwell (24, 13b, 1x4, 2x6) looked dangerous, even if his stay was brief. The Australian launched Ashwin and Yuzvendra Chahal for sixes, and used the reverse sweep to lift Shahbaz for a four over short third-man.

RCB faltered badly at the finish, managing just 34 runs in the last five overs.

SCOREBOARD

ROYAL CHALLENGERS

Virat Kohli c Samson b Prasidh 7 *(8b, 1x6)*, Faf du Plessis c R. Ashwin b McCoy 25 *(27b, 3x4)*, Rajat Patidar c Buttler b R. Ashwin 58 *(42b, 4x4, 3x6)*, Glenn Maxwell c McCoy b Boult 24 *(13b, 1x4, 2x6)*, Mahipal Lomror c R. Ashwin b McCoy 8 *(10b)*, Dinesh Karthik c Parag b Prasidh 6 *(7b)*, Shahbaz Ahmed (not out) 12 *(8b, 1x4, 1x6)*, Wanindu Hasaranga b Prasidh 0 *(1b)*, Harshal Patel b McCoy 1 *(2b)*, Josh Hazlewood (not out) 1 *(2b)*; Extras (b-4, lb-4, w-7): 15; Total (for eight wkts. in 20 overs): 157.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-9 (Kohli, 1.5 overs), 2-79 (du Plessis, 10.4), 3-111 (Maxwell, 13.6), 4-130 (Patidar, 15.3), 5-141 (Lomror, 17.4), 6-146 (Karthik, 18.1), 7-146 (Hasaranga, 18.2), 8-154 (Harshal Patel, 19.1).

ROYALS BOWLING

Boult 4-0-28-1, Prasidh 4-0-22-3, McCoy 4-0-23-3, R. Ashwin 4-0-31-1, Chahal 4-0-45-0.

RAJASTHAN ROYALS

Yashasvi Jaiswal c Kohli b Hazlewood 21 *(13b, 1x4, 2x6)*, Jos Buttler (not out) 106 *(60b, 10x4, 6x6)*, Sanju Samson st. Karthik b Hasaranga 23 *(21b, 1x4, 2x6)*, Devdutt Padikkal c Karthik b Hazlewood 9 *(12b)*, Shimron Hetmyer (not out) 2 *(3b)*; Total (for three wkts. in 18.1 overs): 161.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-61 (Jaiswal, 5.1), 2-113 (Samson, 11.4), 3-148 (Padikkal, 16.5).

RCB BOWLING

Siraj 2-0-31-0, Hazlewood 4-0-23-2, Maxwell 3-0-17-0, Shahbaz 2-0-35-0, Harshal 3.1-0-29-0, Hasaranga 4-0-26-1.

Toss: RR; **MoM:** Buttler.

Royals won by seven wickets to enter the final.

Royal show: After Prasidh bent his back to derail the Royal Challengers innings, Buttler broke free to smash his fourth century of this edition. • SPORTZPICS/IPL

Sangakkara praises Prasidh and Buttler

SPORTS REPORTER
AHMEDABAD

Rajasthan Royals' director of cricket and head coach Kumar Sangakkara praised fast bowler Prasidh Krishna for coming back strongly after a setback in the previous match.

Prasidh recorded a fine three for 22 against RCB in the Qualifier 2 here on Friday, just a few days after being blasted for three consecutive sixes by Gujarat Titans' David Miller in the closing stages of Qualifier 1.

"The entire bowling unit was outstanding. Prasidh deserves a special mention. We had to defend 16 runs in the last game, and he was hit for three sixes by Miller. It can cause a huge dent in confidence. But Prasidh was great in the nets," Sangakkara said at the post-match television interview.

He added that Jos Buttler is a clever batter who thinks deeply about his game.

"Jos backs his strengths, and manoeuvres the bowlers to bowl to his strengths."

Ding has the final say in seesaw battle with Praggnanandhaa

Gallant display: Praggnanandhaa gave it his all before losing to Ding in the final.. • B. JOTHI RAMALINGAM

CHESS

SPORTS BUREAU

R. Praggnanandhaa came close to landing the knockout punch in the two blitz games but World No. 2 Ding Liren of China escaped to a 1.5-0.5 victory and claimed the honours in the Chessables Masters online rapid chess tournament on Thursday.

Diren started the day needing to come out undefeated in the second set of four rapid games for the title, while Praggnanandhaa had to win it to force the two tie-breaking blitz games.

Praggnanandhaa's victory in the second game proved decisive in his 2.5-1.5 victory in the rapid games.

In the two five-minute blitz games that followed, Praggnanadhaa outplayed Ding for the most part. He came very close to winning the first game but faltered. This let Ding force a draw.

In the second, too, Praggnanandhaa forced his famed rival on the defensive but mishandled an advantageous position and Ding seized his chance to win.

After Praggnanandhaa took a 1.5-0.5 lead during the rapid games, he made Ding suffer in the third for 106 moves.

Ding had to defend a tricky position with his queen against Praggnanandhaa's rook, knight and bishop. The fourth, too, ended in a draw, in 44 moves to set the stage for a blitz-match.

In the first blitz game, Praggnanandhaa's extra queenside pawn looked like making the decisive difference after 50 moves but over the next 17 moves, Praggnanandhaa faltered and Ding's resilience paid off.

In the second, Praggnanandhaa was better off the opening but could not build on the advantage.

Around the 28th move, the tide turned Ding's way and he went on to win in 49 moves.

The final:

Second set (rapid): Game I: Praggnanandhaa drew with Ding; **II:** Ding lost to Praggnanandhaa; **III:** Praggnanandhaa drew with Ding; **IV:** Ding drew with Praggnanandhaa.

Blitz: I: Praggnanandhaa drew with Ding; **II:** Ding bt Praggnanandhaa.

Liverpool gunning for payback

Real Madrid eyes extending its European hegemony

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
PARIS

Jurgen Klopp's Liverpool is seeking to cap a remarkable season by avenging its 2018 defeat against Real Madrid when the sides meet again in the Champions League final in Paris on Saturday, but the Spanish giant has its sights on a 14th European Cup triumph.

It is Liverpool's third Champions League final in five seasons and it is widely seen as slight favourite at the Stade de France to become king of Europe for a seventh time.

That would put it level with AC Milan, with only Saturday's opponent having won the trophy more often, and it would allow the Anfield club to finish the campaign with a treble after it lifted the English League Cup and FA Cup.

"I think it is revenge time," Mohammed Salah, scorer of 31 goals this season, admitted recently.

Well placed

Liverpool appear well placed given how much it has strengthened since 2018, chiefly in goal with the arrival of Alisson, while Thiago Alcantara has been a standout in midfield.

The problem is that you could be forgiven for thinking that Real's name is on the cup, as it has literally been so many times before.

While Liverpool saw off Inter Milan, Benfica and Villarreal in the knockout rounds, it is easy to forget now that Carlo Ancelotti's Real side lost at home to Sheriff Tiraspol in the group stage, such has been its extraordinary run since in the knockouts.

Karim Benzema leads Madrid into the final in his home country after a campaign in which he has scored 44 goals, with 15 in Europe and 27 on its run to the Spanish title.

Benzema will surely be nailed on to win the Ballon d'Or if his club triumphs in Paris.

Gauff downs Kanepi in clash of generations

Fernandez digs deep to advance; Djokovic and Nadal roll into round four

FRENCH OPEN

REUTERS
PARIS

Teenager Coco Gauff downed veteran Kaia Kanepi in a clash of the generations to reach the fourth round at Roland-Garros with a 6-3, 6-4 victory on Friday.

The 18-year-old American, who was still a toddler when Estonian Kanepi, 36, played the first of two quarterfinals at Roland Garros in 2008, will next face Belgian 31st seed Elise Mertens.

Top seed Novak Djokovic powered past Aljaz Bedene of Slovenia 6-3 6-3 6-2 to stay firmly on course to challenge for a record-equalling 21st Grand Slam win.

The 35-year-old World No. 1, who was on the court for less than two hours, next plays 15th seed Diego Schwartzmann of Argentina.

"It's not possible to play perfectly but to strive to play close to perfection," Djokovic said in an on-court interview.

Rafael Nadal continued his pursuit of a 14th title here, cruising past Dutch 26th seed Botic van de Zandschulp 6-3, 6-2, 6-4.

U.S. Open runner-up Leylah Fernandez beat Olympic gold medalist Belinda Bencic 7-5, 3-6, 7-5 to reached the fourth round at the French Open for the first time.

The 17th-seeded Fernandez broke Bencic in the 11th game of the deciding set and served out the match. She had saved two set points in the opener.

Fernandez next faces 20-year-old Amanda Anisimova, who reached the Roland Garros semifinals in 2019.

Diego Schwartzman beat Grigor Dimitrov 6-3, 6-1, 6-2 at Court Simonne Mathieu. The 18th-seeded Bulgarian made 59 unforced errors.

Earlier on Thursday, Romanian Irina-Camelia Begu was lucky to escape a default for bouncing her racket into the crowd before going on to beat 30th seed Ekaterina Alexandrova and advance to the third round.

The 31-year-old Begu, ranked 63rd in the world, threw her racket down in frustration after falling down a break in the deciding third set and it bounced off her seating area into the courtside seats on Court 13.

The racket did not seem to hit anyone but caused a child to cry loudly with play halted as the chair umpire called on the supervisor to intervene.

Begu was, however, let off with a code violation for unsportsmanlike conduct and did not let the incident affect her play.

Fallen seeds

- *Men:* 26-Van de Zandschulp
- *Women:* 14-Bencic, 21-Kerber

TOP RESULTS

Third round: Men: 15-Schwartzman (Arg) bt 18-Dimitrov (Bul) 6-3, 6-1, 6-2; 1-Djokovic (Srb) bt Bedene (Slo) 6-3, 6-3, 6-2; 9-Auger-Aliassime (Can) bt Krajinovic (Srb) 7-6(3), 7-6(2), 7-5; 5-Nadal (Esp) bt 26-Van de Zandschulp (Ned) 6-3, 6-2, 6-4.

Women: Sasnovich bt 21-Kerber (Ger) 6-4, 7-6(5); 17-Fernandez (Can) bt 14-Bencic (Sui) 7-5, 3-6, 7-5; 27-Anisimova (USA) bt Muchova (Cze) 6-7(7), 6-2, 3-0, retd.; 31-Mertens (Bel) bt Gracheva 6-2, 6-3; 18-Gauff (USA) bt Kanepi (Est) 6-3, 6-4.

Tough one: A gritty Fernandez outlasted Olympic gold medallist Bencic in a three-setter. • REUTERS

Day in numbers

1 Maiden French Open fourth round for Fernandez. It is also her best run outside the 2021 US Open where he reached the final

7 Three-time Major winner Kerber has fallen in the third round or earlier in seven of her last eight appearances in Paris

17 Mertens has reached the third round or better at 17 consecutive Slams

SATURDAY'S PICKS

MEN

2-Medvedev vs. 28-Kecmanovic
4-Tsitsipas vs. Ymer
7-Rublev vs. Garin
8-Ruud vs. 32-Sonego

WOMEN

1-Swiatek vs. Kovinic
3-Badosa vs. 29-Kudermetova
7-Sabalenka vs. 28-Giorgi
16-Rybakina vs. 22-Keys

BENGALURU ROUND-UP

Dhinidhi sets new mark in 100m freestyle

Dhinidhi Desinghu set a new meet record in the Group II girls' 100m freestyle race with a timing of 1:04.26s at the State sub-junior and junior swimming championship in Belagavi.

The timing shaved more than a second off Rishika Mangle's previous best timing (1:05.65) and was also under Hashika Ramachandra's junior national record mark (1:05.51).

Select results (winners all):

Boys: Group II: 100m backstroke: Ishaan Mehra (1:02.86s) (NMR; OR: Utkarsh Patil, 1:03.11).

Girls: Group I: 100m backstroke: Ridhima Veerendrakumar (1:04.60) (NMR; OR: Ridhima, 1:05.71).

200m breaststroke: S. Lakshya (2:46.53) (NMR; OR: Lakshya, 2:47.54).

200m IM: A. Jedidah (2:29.51) (NMR; OR: S. Lakshya, 2:30.67).

Group II: 100m freestyle: Dhinidhi Desinghu (1:04.26) (NMR; OR: Rishika U. Mangle, 1:05.65).

200m IM: Manavi Varma (2:29.30) (NMR; OR: Manavi, 2:32.61).

Niranjan excels for Hutti Gold Mines

Niranjan's all-round effort (125 & 3/15) was instrumental in Hutti Gold Mines CC's thumping 101-run win over BEML SC, KGF in the KSCA (Group II) second division tournament.

The scores: Hutti Gold Mines CC 191/5 in 20 overs (Niranjan 125, Amay Tejas 28, K.K. Kantesh 3/34) bt BEML SC, KGF 90/7 in 20 overs (Niranjan 3/15).

DELL CC 193/6 in 20 overs (Abhijit Mahapatra 65, Girish Kalkere 31 n.o.) bt Bangalore Telephone CC 129 in 18.3 overs (Shahid Shariff 48, Syed Mudaseer Ahmed 37, Santhosh 3/10).

Triton SC, Mysore 200/5 in 20 overs (N. Sanjay 50, Yogesh 119) bt BEL SC 104 in 15.5 overs (H. Raghunandan 32, D. Amruth Raj 3/27, N. Sanjay 3/26).

Deccan Herald & Prajavani SC 114/9 in 20 overs (S.A. Sachin 48, S. Gunashekar 25, L. Hemanth Kumar 3/15) lost to BEML (2) SC, Mysore 115/1 in 15.4 overs (Vishnu Priyan 43 n.o., B. Dheemanth 41).

LRDE SC 112 in 19.5 overs (Pavan Kumar 25, S. Darshan 42, S.A. Rishi Bopanna 3/11, Prajwal Pavan 3/27) lost to RBI Recreation Club 113/3 in 16.1 overs (Prajwal Pavan 43, I.G. Anil 25 n.o.).

Continental Automotive CC 159/2 in 20 overs (Varun P.Annadani 65 n.o., S.B. Sanket 55) lost to BWSSB Employees Association 160/6 in 19 overs (Prahas S. Nairy 50 n.o., Roshan Vaz 3/22).

LIC S&RC 98 in 18.1 overs (U. Karan 28, N. Boloor 3/23, R. Koushik 3/17) lost to VISL CC, Bhadravathi 100/5 in 15.3 overs (Abu 51).

HAL SC 172/3 in 20 overs (Rahul Prasanna 58, A. Dilip Kumar 43, Gajjala Dileep Kumar 54 n.o.) bt Indian Air Force, Jalahalli 136/9 in 20 overs (M.B. Shivam 57, Gaurav Raj Yadav 25 n.o., Rahul Prasanna 3/28).

Bosch SC, Bangalore 124/5 in 20 overs (E.J. Jasper 83 n.o.) lost to BEML Rail Coach 125/1 in 17.5 overs (Aditya Mani 62 n.o., N. Rohan 39 n.o.).

KPTCL Sports Organisation 217/5 in 20 overs (S. Rajashekar 58, Udayakumar Anandappa Walmiki 89, C.S. Bharath Gowda 41) lost to Union Bank of India 218/6 in 19.5 overs (Pareexith Okkunda 82, Surya Srinivas 89).

South Indian posts win

South Indian FC defeated Bangalore Mars FC 3-1 in the BDFA B-division league championship, here on Friday.

The results: Tilak Memorial FC 1 (Anil Shankar 3) bt Vehicles FC 0; South Indian FC 3 (Ajith Ram 17, Sasurya (OG) 56, Shekar Bahadur Thapa 66) bt Bangalore Mars FC 1 (Prabin Mandengbam (OG) 60); Royals FC 1 (K. Edison 50) drew with Md. Sporting FC 1 (K. Pugalendhi 54).

Bangalore City FC claims BDFA C-division league

Bangalore City FC blanked Bangalore Warriors FC 3-0 in the final to secure the BDFA C-division league championship, on Friday.

The results (final): Bangalore City FC 3 (P. Muhammed Shuhaib 13, Divin Davis 54, Ngamminthang Kipgen 61) bt Bangalore Warriors FC 0.

Basketball tournament

The Karnataka State Basketball Association will conduct the State C-division basketball league championship for the S. Rangarajan Memorial Trophy from June 18 to 23 in Bengaluru. Around 54 teams from all over Karnataka are expected to participate.

SNAPSHOTS

Wimbledon to remove 'Miss' and 'Mrs' from honours board

LONDON: Wimbledon chiefs have decided to replace the Grand Slam's honours board to remove "Miss" and "Mrs" in front of the names of female winners, according to *The Times* report on Thursday.

The All England Lawn Tennis Club's honours board has used honorifics in front of female champions but not male winners.

The nose stud stays on Hamilton

MONACO: Lewis Hamilton kept his nose stud in at the Monaco Grand Prix after motorsport's governing body extended the exemption on drivers wearing jewellery until the end of June.

Hamilton had been given a temporary exemption of two races to remove his stud, a process he said required surgical intervention. That covered only the Miami and Spanish GPs.

Manish-Sai Karteek duo crashes out

SPORTS BUREAU

Manish Sureshkumar and Sai Karteek Reddy were beaten 7-5, 6-3 by third seeds Oscar Jose Gutierrez and Marcelo Zormann of Brazil in the doubles quarterfinals of the $25,000 ITF men's tennis tournament in Mataro, Spain.

The results: $25,000 ITF men, Mataro, Spain: Quarterfinals: Oscar Jose Gutierrez & Marcelo Zormann (Bra) bt Sai Karteek Reddy Ganta & Manish Sureshkumar 7-5, 6-3.

$15,000 ITF men, Oran, Algeria: Semifinals: Benjamin Lock & Courtney John Lock (Zim) bt Parth Aggarwal & Tushar Madan 6-1, 3-6, [10-3].

$15,000 ITF women, Santa Margarita de Montbui, Spain: Semifinals: Shin Jiho (Kor) & Celine Simunyu (Irl) bt Darila Monakhova & Vasanti Shinde 6-3, 6-4.

$15,000 ITF women, Cancun, Mexico: Quarterfinals: Kariann Pierre-Louis (US) & Kelly Williford (Dom) bt Laura Daniela Patino (Col) & Sravya Shivani 7-6(5), 6-3.

Now a flying museum in honour of Maradona

Flying high: Diego Maradona's daughters, Dalma and Yanina, pose during the presentation of the aircraft. • AP

ASSOCIATED PRESS
BUENOS AIRES

A flying museum in honor of soccer great Diego Maradona is set to take to the skies.

The "Tango D10S" plane was introduced on Wednesday night before it flies around Argentina for fans of Maradona to visit on the ground.

The plane's exterior is adorned with images of Maradona including one where he wears the Argentina jersey and kisses the World Cup trophy he lifted in 1986.

The plane will also visit Barcelona and Naples, where Maradona led Napoli to its only two Italian league titles in 1987 and 1990.

Qatar, which hosts the World Cup later this year, will be the aircraft's final stop in the tour.

Drawings on the wings make reference to the two goals Maradona scored in the quarterfinals against England in the 1986 World Cup – the controversial "Hand of God" goal followed by a sublime individual effort.

Inside the plane, there are memorabilia items that belonged to Maradona.

McCullum to support 'strong leader' Stokes

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
LONDON

New coach Brendon McCullum is relishing the prospect of working alongside a "really strong leader" in new captain Ben Stokes as they prepare to launch a new era for the England Test team with a match against his native New Zealand starting at Lord's next week.

"I certainly don't coach technically," he told Sky Sports. "I think with Stokesy as captain we've got a really strong leader, a 'follow me' type of captain and so I think my job will be to try and ensure that we're consistent with a lot of our messaging.

"I'll look after the guys inside the environment as well and try and allow them to really grow at a speed which they might not have got to previously, so it's a big challenge."

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